



Me and myself

How babies learn who they are

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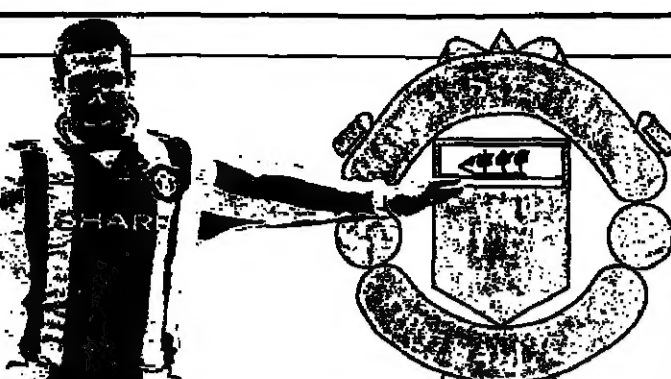
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Powers for forces will match MI5

Police gain right to bug and break in

By RICHARD FORD, HOME CORRESPONDENT

POLICE will be able to enter private property and plant bugging devices against targeted criminals under legislation to be introduced by the Government in the autumn.

The aim is to put covert surveillance by the 43 police forces in England and Wales on a similar basis to MI5, which soon will be able to obtain warrants to break into houses and vehicles to plant bugs.

The Security Service Bill, which becomes law later this year, will give MI5 a new role that will have widespread implications for policing and raises questions about civil liberties and accountability.

Under the Bill, about to start its passage through the House of Lords and expected to be law by July, MI5 will be legally entitled, acting under power of a warrant from the Home Secretary, to break into homes, search them, copy documents, plant listening devices and cameras and leave without the owners being aware they are under surveillance.

Police have been carrying out similar operations for years against major criminals without any statutory permission. Although they have mounted operations on the authority of chief constables under guidelines laid down by the Home Secretary in 1984, which regulate the circumstances under which private homes can be secretly entered, they have no right to do so.

Michael Howard, the Home Secretary, is preparing to introduce legislation in November in response to fears among senior police officers that if MI5 is the only organisation legally approved to plant hidden cameras and recording equipment, it might attempt to take over all bugging operations in England and Wales.

A number of proposals to satisfy the concerns of civil liberties organisations that the extent of covert surveillance is properly controlled, are being

discussed by police and the Home Office. They include requiring a warrant signed by the Home Secretary or requiring the police to seek permission from one or two judges who would hear the justifications in private.

Sir Paul Condon, the Metropolitan Police Commissioner, told *The Times*: "The police have argued for many years that there should be some legal framework. The police want to be totally accountable and seen to be operating to the highest standards of integrity. The police have everything to gain and nothing to lose by a statutory framework."

Bill Taylor, the commissioner of the City of London police, said: "We are concerned that in the absence of any legislation, we have a twin-track system: one where MI5 has a

statutory basis and one where the police do not." He said the absence of a legal basis to police operations in such a delicate area meant that "a big arm of law enforcement is operating without statute. It is a very important technique for us and we need it to be enshrined in law".

Police have been able to carry out covert break-ins because to enter a house without intent to steal or cause damage does not constitute burglary or a crime. They have, however, been exposed to a civil action for trespass.

The extent of an increasing trend to use bugging was highlighted in two recent cases. Detectives investigating the killing of Grant Price, an accountant, placed a listening device in the home of one of the two men suspected of his murder. They were convicted

on the basis of recorded conversations between them discussing how they killed him. In a private prosecution brought by the parents of Stephen Lawrence, the black teenager who was thought to have been stabbed to death by white youths, a camera and recorder was placed in the home of those under suspicion. The recordings were shown in committal proceedings, although the prosecution collapsed for other reasons.

The first test case on the legality of using evidence from bugs planted in private homes is currently before the law lords, who are expected to rule later this year. One possibility is that they may be regarded like telephone taps, which come under the 1985 Interception of Communications Act. This requires the Home Secretary's authorisation, but material gathered cannot be used in court.

Mr Taylor said that under existing rules, officers planning covert surveillance operations involving bugging must outline their reasons for needing to enter property and how they will operate. "You recognise that this is invasion of privacy and chief officers look very carefully at the method."

Alan Bell, the Liberal Democrat police and security spokesman, said serious questions remained to be addressed before the measure became law, particularly over accountability and complaints. He said anyone with a complaint about police bugging would be able to go to the Police Complaints Authority. "If it has been planted by MI5, the complaint will just disappear into a black hole. The Police Complaints Authority cannot investigate MI5 and the police will not be able to tell a member of the public that MI5 has been involved."

The Bill will also set up a National Crime Squad, as promised by John Major at last year's Conservative Party conference.



Sifiso Mahlangu, left, with a friend in Tsakane yesterday, after British courts ruled that he be returned to his mother

Zulu boy returns to life in township

FROM INIGO GILMORE
IN TSAKANE
AND JO BALE

SIFISO MAHLANGU yesterday arrived in Tsakane township, six miles east of Brakpan, near Johannesburg, sitting in the front seat of a car driven by his father, Charlie.

A woman standing on a corner of a dusty street whooped with delight when she saw the ten-year-old and waved, but Sifiso, close to tears and with his baby sister perched on his knees, stared ahead and did not acknowledge the greeting.

His mother, Selina, was not in the car. The British courts had ruled that she had rightful custody instead of the white

woman who effectively adopted Sifiso at the age of 18 months and brought him to London at the age of six. Sifiso had arrived at Johannesburg International Airport yesterday morning after taking an overnight British Airways flight from London with Mrs Mahlangu. They dodged journalists waiting in the arrivals hall by slipping out of another exit.

Twenty-four hours earlier the boy had become distressed at Heathrow when about to leave and his departure had to be postponed. On Saturday night airport authorities, fearing a repeat performance, had the boy driven on to the tarmac four minutes before departure, with a police car as

an escort. Captain Derek Gill, the pilot of BA057, said the child visited the cockpit during the flight and was well behaved throughout. Yesterday in Tsakane, Mr Mahlangu spotted television crews outside his house and turned his car around and sped out of the township in the direction of Brakpan. He drove to a whitewashed bungalow with a neat lawn in a leafy suburb of the town. Sifiso, wearing a white T-shirt, black jeans and trainers, hurried into the house looking nervously about him before his father returned to speak to reporters. Mr Mahlangu spoke of his elation that his son had returned to South Africa. "Look what is on my

face," he said with a smile. Asked about the boy's unhappiness about returning to South Africa, he said the matter had not yet been discussed. He added: "I just met him and he was all right. He

Continued on page 2, col 1

Arson is blamed after four children die in bed

By STEPHEN FARRELL

FOUR children died yesterday in a suspected arson attack on their home in Southampton.

Murder detectives are investigating claims by the distraught mother that petrol had been poured through the letterbox and set alight at 2am as the family slept.

The dead were named last night as Terry Good, 12, his brother Patrick, 6, and sisters Alison, 10, and Nicola, 8. They were found in a rear bedroom of the semi-detached council house in Sullivan Road, Sholing, Southampton. Their older sister, Kelly, 14, is seriously ill in the burns unit at Odstock Hospital, Salisbury, Wiltshire. Her mother Beverly and father Melvin are at her bedside.

Their oldest child, Andrea, 18, was with her boyfriend at the time of the fire and was told of the tragedy by police at 5am. She, too, is at her sister's bedside.

A Hampshire Police spokesman confirmed last night that they were treating the blaze as suspicious and appealed for sightings of a car or other vehicle pulling up near the house between midnight and 2am. But they refused to comment on neighbours' claims that Mrs Good suspected arson.

Melanie Gregory, 25, said: "Bev was screaming 'my kids, my kids, I can't save my kids. They poured petrol through my letterbox and set fire to it'."

Forensic scientists and Hampshire Fire Service investigators searched the house to establish the cause of the fire.

Detective Superintendent Peter Neyroud, who is leading the investigation, said: "This is an appalling incident. The house is so badly damaged that we do not know at this stage what caused the fire or where the blaze began."

Children's cries, page 3

Lloyd's names nearer deal

Inquiries by *The Times* show that a long-awaited settlement with out-of-pocket Lloyd's names could be achieved this summer, with the help of a £1.2 billion boost.

Lloyd's is set to lift its £2.8 billion settlement offer to names, while the Department of Trade and Industry is expected to agree to a sharp cut in the amount they will need to pay to a new reinsurance vehicle. Page 36

Courts give football fans licence to drink till dawn

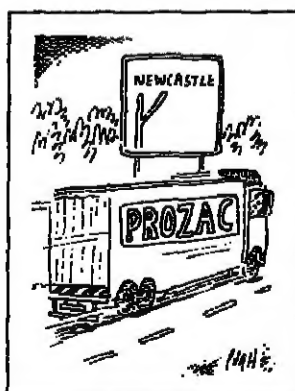
By RICHARD FORD
HOME CORRESPONDENT

HUNDREDS of thousands of football fans will be able to drink until dawn during the Euro 96 championships next month as magistrates relax restrictions on closing times in city centre pubs and clubs.

MPs expressed concern last night at the easing of strict licensing hours in Liverpool, Manchester, Newcastle upon Tyne, Sheffield, Leeds, Birmingham, Nottingham and London on the days matches are played in the cities. This was contrasted with the 1990 World Cup when Colin Moynihan, then Sports Minister, persuaded the Italian authorities to ban the sale of alcohol on match days.

The move comes as the Government proposes to relax licensing laws in England and Wales to enable pubs to open until midnight instead of 11pm on Friday and Saturdays.

Timothy Kirkhope, a junior Home Office Minister, will publish a consultation paper



United poised for the double

In a frantic climax to the football season, Manchester United won the Premiership for the third time in four years, beating Middlesbrough 3-0. They finished four points clear of Newcastle United, who were held 1-1 at home by Tottenham Hotspur. United meet Liverpool in the FA Cup Final at Wembley on Saturday. Pages 19, 34

licensing laws will vary between the eight cities hosting the championship but the police have said they will study carefully applications from pubs in residential areas because of concern over public order.

In Liverpool licensees have been given the go-ahead to remain open until 1am and public houses and clubs with special certificates in the city centre will be able to serve alcohol until 4am.

MPs face controls on free holidays

By ARTHUR LEATHLEY, POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

MPs face tougher rules next month to curb the number of "freebie" holidays and overseas visits taken by themselves and their families. New Commons guidelines will force MPs to reveal more details of such trips if paid for by companies, charities or foreign governments.

There will also be stricter rules to stop an increasingly common trend among MPs of extending overseas conference trips into holidays. The moves, to be recommended by a Commons committee, will prevent MPs who have travelled at the expense of companies, governments or charities from initiating Commons debates concerning their hosts.

The new package of guidelines comes after changes introduced last year that reduced the opportunities for MPs to promote arguments on behalf of outside clients. Those changes, preventing "paid advocacy", were in response to Lord Nolan's demand for wideranging curbs on the

outside earnings of MPs. Although these checks cover MPs' contracts with companies, many MPs have complained about the confusion over travel and hospitality.

Now the Commons standards and privileges committee is preparing to clarify the rules on travel. One committee member said: "To some MPs, overseas travel at other people's expense is a way of life."

The changes will come in the wake of the publication tomorrow of the first register of MPs' interests to be compiled since the Nolan changes were introduced last November. The committee has resisted pressure from some MPs to raise the limit on the value of gifts that can be accepted without being declared. Although MPs claim that the £125 limit needs to be increased in line with inflation, possibly to £300, ministers have suggested that such a move would be politically dangerous.

Riddell on Monday, page 14

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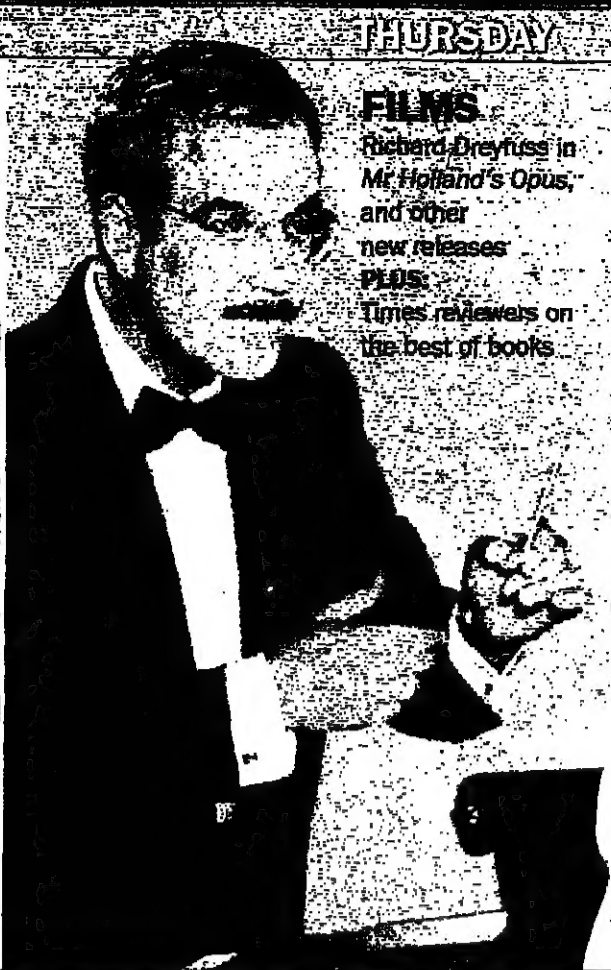
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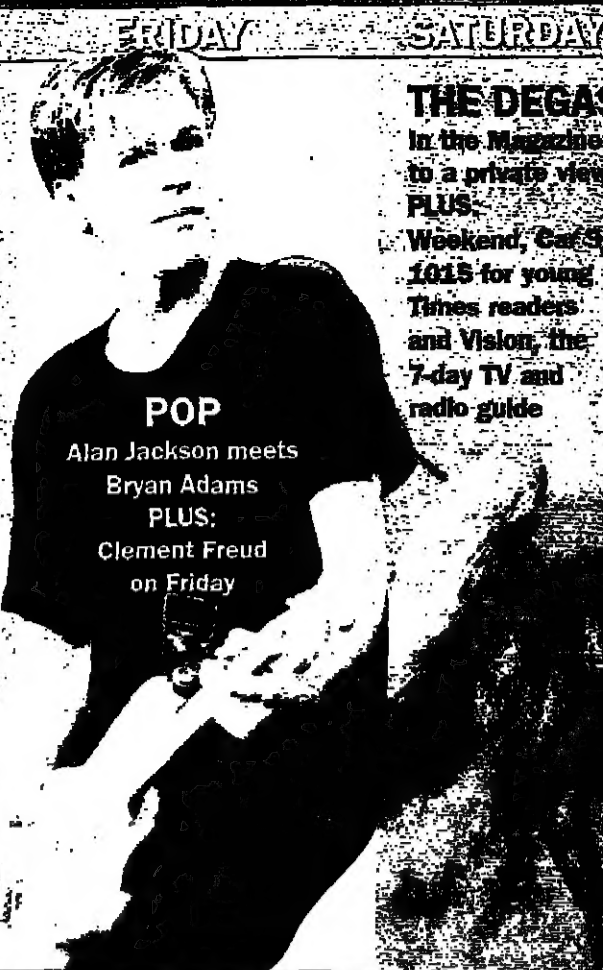
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Fox demands tougher line against Europe

BY ARTHUR LEATHLEY
POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

SIR MARCUS FOX, chairman of the backbench 1922 Committee, denounced pro-European Conservatives yesterday and called on the party to take a hardline stance against Brussels.

His comments came in spite of a warning from senior ministers that continued feuding in the party could open the door to the Labour Party. Sir Marcus joined the calls for unity but said there had to be a commitment to fighting European interference in Britain's beef industry. He said that

some members of the Tory Left were "so pro-Europe it's unbelievable". He added: "They must understand that we want to listen to them [but] at the end of the day they must accept the majority view of my colleagues in the 1922 who are supporters of John Major."

His remarks came days before John Redwood, the former Cabinet minister, is due to call for the party to adopt more radical policies over Europe to distance itself from Labour. Mr Redwood's

pamphlet *Actions not Words*, to be launched on Wednesday, will urge a tax-cutting programme and a tougher line against Brussels. It coincides with plans by Teresa Gorman, a Euro-sceptic Tory MP, to introduce a Commons Bill demanding a referendum on issues stretching beyond a single currency.

The new wave of right-wing pressure will fly in the face of calls from Tory ministers for unity after last week's local election rout in which the

Conservatives lost 567 council seats. As the Tory high command prepared a new offensive to focus attention on economic improvement, MPs were told to target Labour rather than open further internal divisions.

Michael Heseltine, the Deputy Prime Minister, emphasised the risk of defeat if the internal warfare continued. "What are Conservatives trying to achieve in giving the appearance of disunity within the Conservative Party? I

know what they're likely to achieve, and that is to open the door of No 10 Downing Street to Tony Blair."

He denounced those who would jeopardise the party's chances of winning the next election rather than compromise over the future of Europe. "That is political madness," he said, adding that it would be "lunacy" to let Mr Blair into power as he was more pro-European. Mr Heseltine also attacked Mrs Gorman's proposed referen-

dum Bill as "gesture politics". The risk of further divisions was underlined by Lord Archer of Weston-super-Mare, the former Tory deputy chairman, who tried to stave off further backbench threats to the Prime Minister. "There appear to be one or two people who think what we are actually discussing is who will be leader after the election. I've got a message for them. The leader after the election will be John Major and he will be the Prime Minister and he will

have an even bigger majority if they get behind him."

Brian Mawhinney, the Tory chairman, said there had been real divisions in the party before last year's leadership election but the bitterness had disappeared. "Over the next 12 months increasingly you are going to see, within all the parties, people concentrating on the core messages of what the party is offering to the public, and people will be able to see the distinctions and differences between the parties."

William Rees-Mogg, and Peter Riddell, page 14

Zulu boy back at township in South Africa

Continued from page 1

never gave me a problem. He's just happy for me."

Mr Mahlangu recently claimed that he had moved out of the family's single-roomed home in Tsakane into a house that he had bought in a Brakpan suburb.

However, his neighbours say the family is still living in the township. Sifiso has complained that he had to share a bed with his mother and baby sister. Mr Mahlangu admitted that the bungalow belonged to his company and would not discuss the family's plans for the boy, saying they were secret.

Mr Mahlangu fended off questions about his anger towards Salome Stopford, the mother of three who vowed yesterday to fight her case through the European courts to have Sifiso returned to her.

Tsakane is a sprawling township with an estimated population of 20,000 generally living on the dry open veld in rickety iron shacks or small brick houses. Many houses do not have running water or electricity. The telephones on the Mahlangu's street do not work after someone stole the telephone wire.

Neighbours in the township had mixed feelings about the boy's return. One teenager talked animatedly about township life and how he was certain Sifiso would soon readjust after four years in Britain. But another youth said the fact that the boy had forgotten how to speak Zulu would cause difficulties.

Meanwhile, at her spacious four-bedroom flat in Maida Vale, west London yesterday, Mrs Stopford promised to continue fighting the case in the European Court of Human Rights in Strasbourg.

She said Sifiso had agreed to board the flight to South Africa only after his parents promised to allow his return to London after a six-month trial period. Mrs Stopford said: "We intend to fight this all the way because Sifiso's wishes have been ignored."

Sifiso is still a ward of court in England and Mrs Mahlangu gave an assurance to the court that she would return him if ordered to.

A legal source said: "If Strasbourg finds that both his and Mrs Stopford's rights have been violated then we would have grounds to request his return through the English courts. Even without Strasbourg, if it becomes quite obvious that he is suffering, then we will still have grounds because he is a ward of court."

Leading article, page 15

French firm aims to win a quarter of rail franchises

BY JONATHAN PRYNN, TRANSPORT CORRESPONDENT

A FRENCH rubbish-collection and street-cleaning company could be running a quarter of Britain's railway network within a year.

CGEA, a £1.3 billion a year "waste management" and transport group based in a Paris suburb, plans to become one of Britain's biggest train operators by winning up to five former British Rail passenger franchises.

The company has already landed the seven-year contract to operate trains on Network SouthCentral, the fifth largest former British Rail franchise, and now has its sights on other routes.

It has been shortlisted for the Chiltern and South Eastern franchises, which will be awarded in the summer, and is also thought to be interested in the ScotRail and South Wales and West networks.

Antoine Hurel, director of the company's transport section, said the company was looking to build up a portfolio of between three and five of the larger passenger franchises. That could give it control of 25 per cent or more of the passenger network, which the Government hopes will be fully privatised before the next election.

With Sea Containers, a Bermuda-registered ferry and freight company, also likely to be one of the leading rail operators after privatisation, up to half the network could end up in the hands of companies with overseas headquarters.

M Hurel said he expected

the CGEA to emerge as one of the big three or four players in the post-privatisation industry after all 25 contracts had been awarded.

"We are trying to take a low profile but we want to prove the merits of privatisation," he said. "We are happy to run anything if we think it will be profitable."

CGEA's first attempt to win a franchise was thwarted in December when the Stagecoach bus company outbid it for the South West Trains contract, one of the first two to be awarded.

CGEA went on to win Network SouthCentral, which operates commuter trains from Victoria to South London, Surrey, Sussex, and the south coast, on a seven-year contract.

The company was criticised for not including any proposals for new trains to replace the existing stock of 30-year-old "slam door" carriages as part of its bid.

Its plans for the franchise, which will operate under the new name of London & South Coast, include a "South London metro" frequent departure service for the capital's suburbs, a 100mph "Brighton Belle" hourly express service.

CGEA is owned by Générale des Eaux, France's biggest private employer, which already has more than 50 British subsidiaries, including four water companies, three cable television firms and a healthcare company with 29 private hospitals.



Protesters put up a tent yesterday as they began building what they called a communal village on a patch of derelict land in Wandsworth

Land protesters take over derelict site

HUNDREDS of campaigners for land rights seized a derelict site yesterday and started building a "communal village". Police called to the site in south London kept a low profile after 400 activists set up buildings, dug toilets, planted windmills for electricity and prepared the ground for crops.

The activists, calling themselves The Land is Ours, had earlier driven in convoy from Shepherd's Bush to York Road, Wandsworth, before taking over the 13-acre site which is earmarked for a supermarket. Over the

next few days they plan to build a temporary village before planning and building a permanent settlement. Inspector George Porter, from Battersea police station, said they were powerless to stop the campaigners who did not appear to have broken any laws.

The occupation is aimed at mirroring a mass squat of more than 1,000 sites by demobbed soldiers who found themselves homeless at the end of the Second World War. They want inner-city derelict land to be redeveloped for cheap accommodation. The group

spent six months drawing up plans, building prefabricated housing and recruiting the expertise of architects, engineers and lawyers. One of the organisers, George Monbiot, a former Oxford don, said he hoped the mass squat would "stimulate debate about the twin issues of homelessness and derelict land".

The site is owned by Guinness, whose attempts to redevelop have been blocked by Wandsworth Borough Council.

Benefits of the A34 Newbury bypass, the most bitterly contested of the

Government's surviving road schemes, could be wiped out after providing only ten years' relief from traffic gridlock in the town (Jonathan Pryn writes).

A leaked transport document drawn up by Berkshire County Council, predicts that "traffic conditions on the existing A34 in 2006 would return to the current conditions" if traffic grows as predicted. It also showed that the council had seriously considered building yet another relief road, to the west of Newbury, to deal with additional traffic.

Brown's child benefit plan resisted

BY ARTHUR LEATHLEY
POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

TONY BLAIR is facing resistance from senior colleagues in the Labour Party over plans to end child benefit for the parents of children aged between 16 and 18.

The Labour leader is pressing ahead with a wide-ranging review of funding for post-16 education, in spite of from within the party that plans to abolish child benefit for this age group have been "ill thought-out."

Gordon Brown, the Shadow Chancellor, made clear last month that the party was prepared to abolish child ben-

efit for more than a million teenagers aged 16, 17 or 18 and to use the resulting £700 million saving to improve training and education for the poorest families.

Labour frontbenchers have voiced concern that the plan could lose the party votes at the general election, with John Major already calling it a "tax on learning".

Senior frontbenchers, including Chris Smith, the Shadow Social Security Secretary, and David Blunkett, the Shadow Education and Employment Secretary, are at present discussing with Mr Brown and Mr Blair the particulars of the plan, which

are likely to be unveiled in detail next month.

Senior Labour figures attempted yesterday to counter suggestions that Mr Blair had been frightened off the plan, although one Shadow Cabinet member said: "It needs finessing before we give out full details. It needs to be sold rather better than before." Mr Blair's aides said the Labour leader was intent on following the "radical proposals".

Officials from both Mr Blair's and Mr Brown's offices denounced as "nonsense" reports in a Sunday newspaper that there was a split over the issue and said the two were fully committed to the plan.

Yesterday, Conservatives seized on suggestions of a rift. Lord Archer of Weston-super-Mare, the former Tory deputy chairman, said: "At last it is becoming clear that the real splits are on the Labour front bench - Cook is unable to speak to Brown, Brown is no longer speaking to Blair, and Blair never speaking to Prescott. It hardly gives one confidence in them forming a Cabinet."

Mr Smith is hoping to ensure that poorer families are not forced to take their children out of full-time education by ensuring that they would still receive an education and maintenance allowance.

Dorrell offers care carrot

BY DOMINIC KENNEDY
SOCIAL AFFAIRS
CORRESPONDENT

PLANS to help the elderly to pay for residential or nursing homes without having to sell their property are expected to be announced by the Health Secretary this week.

In a discussion paper, Stephen Dorrell will offer tax incentives to those who take out insurance policies to safeguard their homes against the present means test. In return, the Government will agree to pay for their care beyond a three-year limit.

Critics say that this is less than generous, since the aver-

age stay in a nursing home is 18 months, and in a residential home three years. Most people who go into care homes will die there.

The means test for those who have to go into care means that if they have assets worth £16,000, they are expected to foot the entire bill, which can be £17,000 a year. An estimated 40,000 elderly people have already sold their homes to pay for care.

Mr Dorrell is also suggesting flexible pensions, beginning at a low rate with a higher payout in later years to pay for extra help. His strategy depends on people being sensible enough to take

precautions about their future needs.

Only one in six will require nursing or residential care. Pensions experts say it is difficult to persuade people to invest for their ordinary requirements after leaving employment.

An unsolved problem is how to deal with people who are too poor to take out insurance or whose pension is too small to manage on less than the full sum in the early years. The Government would still be expected to meet their costs. Some projections suggest their numbers will rise sharply as the average age of the population increases.



Stopford: vowed to continue fight for boy

Neighbours heard cries of children trapped in fire

BY STEPHEN FARRELL

DESPERATE screams for help alerted neighbours to the fire in which four children died early yesterday. They ran to help after seeing flames leaping from windows and doors of the house in Southampton but were unable to do anything to save the victims.

Melvin and Beverley Good, the parents of the children who were sleeping in another room at their home in Sholing, Southampton, escaped by climbing out of the bedroom window and clambering across a conservatory that adjoined the house. The children, who were trapped in a rear bedroom, were unable to escape.

John Clifford, 40, a lorry driver whose house overlooks the Goods' back garden, said: "I heard terrible, terrible screams which woke me from my sleep. They were wailing 'Mummy, daddy, help us please'. I woke my wife and we looked out of the back window. The house was ablaze, it was an inferno but even above the noise of the fire I could hear those children's screams."

"The sound of those helpless little kids screaming for their lives will stay with me for ever. I went down to the back fence and saw Melvin and Beverley in the garden. I asked if everyone was out and he said 'no'. Then I heard shrieks coming from inside the house again. By this time they weren't proper words, they were just terrified screams. Then they suddenly stopped."

Chris Horn, 32, was returning home from a public house

with his girlfriend when he heard cries which he thought came from behind the front door. "I kicked the door as hard as I could. The glass fell out and a flame ripped out through the hole. I dived back out of the way, then I heard screams coming from the side of the house," he said.

Mr Horn, a panel beater who lives opposite, said he vaulted on to the garden gate and saw Mrs Good crouching below. "I jumped onto the gate, leant over and pulled her over with one arm. I don't know how I did it. She was screaming and my girlfriend just tried to calm her down."

"Then I jumped back over the gate and saw the husband. He was only wearing underpants and was trying to get back into the house shouting 'I've got to get in to my babies'. I just grabbed his arm and stopped him. There was no way anybody could have gone in there. It would have been suicide."

Mr Horn saw Kelly, 14, appear from the back door, her face and hair burnt and her arms and legs covered in blood. He said: "She was screaming and shouting 'I know who done this'. I tried to talk to her but she just kept shouting so I grabbed hold of her and sat her on my knee to comfort her."

Residents on the council estate were astonished at the speed with which the fire took hold. Flames and dense smoke poured from every door and window, the glass panes exploding into the street. David

Brewer and Paul Cambell were among the first firefighters to arrive. Wearing breathing apparatus, they fought to get up the stairs but were beaten back at the first attempt by the heat, which turned water from their hoses to steam.

"The first thing I heard when I got to the house was the mother's voice screaming 'My kids, my kids,'" Mr Cambell, 33, said. "The first time we tried to get to the top of the stairs it was just too hot, there were balls of flame licking round our ears. The children were the driving force, that's why we were prepared to put ourselves through so much pain."

Ignoring burns to his face, neck and arm, Mr Brewer, 32, made it to the children's bedroom where he found their bodies. "Inside the room it was just all flames up the walls, along the ceiling and out the window. You couldn't see six inches in front of you," he said. "It was the most horrific scene I have ever seen in 13 years on the job. No training can condition you for finding casualties and bodies. You just have to deal with it at the time."

Four firefighters suffered facial and neck burns and have been offered counselling. Alan House, assistant chief fire officer for Hampshire Fire Service, said many chose to deal with their emotions by talking it through with friends.

Yesterday fire brigade and Home Office forensic investigators carried out a search of the blackened house, its outer shell burnt away above the charred front door.

Friends laid bouquets of flowers beneath a lampost near the sealed-off section of Sullivan Road. Tina Stunell, mother of Andrea Good's boyfriend, Alan, said Miss Good had learnt of her brothers' and sisters' deaths in an early-morning call from police.

"Andrea is a lovely girl. She was like another mother to those children, very protective of them," she said. "Everyone is just so, so sorry for the family."



Claire Pierce, described as a sporty young woman who was always in good spirits

Daughter of top policeman dies at 'drugs party'

BY ADRIAN LEE

THE DAUGHTER of a police superintendent was found dead on a sofa at a party where it is suspected drugs were available. Police were yesterday questioning friends of Claire Pierce, 20, whose father Roy is the commander of the Beeston police division in Nottinghamshire.

Miss Pierce apparently fell asleep during the night but friends, who had continued with the party in Meden Vale, near Mansfield, were unable to rouse her at 6.30am yesterday. Neighbours said a group of teenagers, many in tears, was later led away from the house.

A post-mortem examination was carried out yesterday but it could be two days before toxicology tests are completed on Miss Pierce, a bereavement counsellor, who was about to become a nurse. Police said tablets had been handed out at the party.

Superintendent Mick Salt, of Mansfield police, who is a family friend, said: "No tablets were found but we know they were there. No one else suffered any ill-effects. For all we know, Claire could have died of a heart attack."

"The party went on through the night and at some stage, as far as we know, she lay down on a settee in the lounge and apparently went to sleep. She was found by one of the group, shortly before 6.30am, who shook her. But apparently she looked dead and her body felt cold to the touch."

Ambulance paramedics were unable to revive Miss Pierce, who was pronounced

dead by a police surgeon. Mr Salt said police had questioned 15 people who attended the party. He appealed to others who had left earlier to come forward. It was not, at this stage, a criminal inquiry.

Miss Pierce had just won a place as a student nurse at St James's Hospital in Leeds but was working with her mother Ruth. She lived in Mansfield with her parents and brother Mark, 23, who has just left the Army. She is known to have been drinking at a pub before reaching the party.

Mr Salt described Miss Pierce as "a nice pleasant young lady who was no problem to her family". There had been no complaints from neighbours about the party and it was not a "rave". He said Miss Pierce's father, whom he had known since she was born, would have investigated many similar cases.

Last night no one was at the terraced house where the party was held. A neighbour, Reg Curtis, 46, a former miner, said a woman and her two sons, the older one a teenager, lived in the house. It is thought the mother, aged 40, was away on holiday.

Mr Curtis said he had spoken to the teenager about drugs recently. "Drugs are rare around here but only last week he assured me that he has nothing to do with them."

One of Miss Pierce's neighbours said: "Everyone around here is totally shocked. She was an attractive, sporty young woman who looked to be really healthy and always in good spirits."

Glider pair survive fatal crash with plane

BY JOANNA BALE

A GLIDING instructor and his student escaped unhurt yesterday when their aircraft collided with a single-engine plane whose pilot died when he crashed in a field.

As the plane nose-dived, the two men in the glider regained control of their aircraft and landed safely close to the village of Westcott, near Aylesbury, Buckinghamshire.

A man working in a building near by said he heard the plane crash, then saw the glider overhead with part of its wing hanging off. The man, who

did not wish to be named, said: "The plane crashed two fields away from us. I heard the crash. It sounded like one of those racing planes. It sounded like it was going into a dive. The glider came over about two seconds later. I saw a bit of its wing hanging off. It could have been a bit of a catastrophe if it had come any nearer to the village."

The single-engine Gulfstream AAS had flown from Elstree airport in Borehamwood, Hertfordshire, with only the 27-year-old male pilot aboard. The German ASK 13 glider took off 20 minutes before the accident from the

Upward Bound Trust for Young People at Haddenham airfield, Buckinghamshire. The glider club, which trains about 30 young people, was holding a Bank Holiday event with vintage gliders.

The aircraft collided just after 11am and the American-built Gulfstream was so badly damaged that police were unable to identify it at the scene. Fire crews cut the pilot from the wreckage and he was certified dead by a police surgeon.

The glider crew were treated for shock and last night they were being questioned by officials from the Air

Accident Investigation Bureau about the collision, which happened at 2.000ft in fine weather.

Brian Bushell, the glider club's chief flying instructor, said: "One of our two-seater training gliders was involved in a mid-air collision. The glider landed safely and both pilots are uninjured. The matter is now in the hands of the Air Accident Investigation Board and I have been advised to say nothing else."

On Saturday a pilot died in a crash at a display of Second World War aircraft at the Old Warden aerodrome near Biggleswade, Bedfordshire.

Lawyers complain of stress at work

HIGH-FLYING lawyers complain of intolerable stress and bullying at work in a survey published today. The survey of 700 solicitors for *The Lawyer* magazine showed that more than 80 per cent were looking around for new jobs.

Nine out of 10 said they suffered from stress and nearly one third saw themselves as highly stressed, with the vast majority claiming their personal life had been harmed by work. A quarter of the solicitors who responded to the survey said the volume of work they were expected to do stopped them from taking their full entitlement of holiday.

The study showed that 85 per cent believed their profession had declined in standing in the public eye and that solicitors should be monitored and controlled by independent outsiders instead of by the Law Society. Two thirds of lawyers in private companies confirmed that women had a worse deal than men when it came to being made full partners in law firms. One third of all solicitors reported coming across bullying by senior figures at their place of work.

Feminist accuses men of abusing sex equality laws

BY DOMINIC KENNEDY, SOCIAL AFFAIRS CORRESPONDENT

MEN are making ridiculous sex discrimination claims to portray themselves as victims of the sex war, a leading feminist said yesterday.

The Equal Opportunities Commission received more complaints about sexism in job recruitment from males last year than from females, for the first time in its 20-year history. Bernadette Vallety said she had evidence that men may be making ludicrous job applications and then crying foul.

There were 820 complaints of sex discrimination by men in 1995 — a 10 per cent rise over 1994 — compared with 803 from women. The commission is celebrating a £2,500 out-of-court settlement for a male nurse who was refused a job with the RAF.

Other cases include a bricklayer who was refused a job as a secretary in case he was reluctant to make the tea, and a male country club receptionist sacked by employers who wanted a pretty girl.

Ms Vallety had to deal with two complaints from men to the commission when the Women's Environmental Network, which she founded,

advertised for a woman director. "They were doing it as spoilsports," she said.

"I don't think there is a man who would want to have that job as director of an organisation campaigning on menstruation. I looked at those two men's CVs. I don't know how they would have the gall to say they could do this better than a woman. We had to go through quite a complicated palaver with the Equal Opportunities Commission."

Kamlesh Bahl, chairwoman of the commission, said she would analyse the statistics to see if there was evidence of multiple or organised complaints by men. "There may be an element of people using that system. People will always do that," she said.

Anti-male discrimination grew after the last recession, when thousands of middle-aged men were made redundant. Complaints by men had hovered around 25 per cent since the commission was founded. That crept up to 40 per cent after the latest recession and has now exceeded 50 per cent. A high proportion of complaints comes from the over-50s.

Professor 'proves' superiority of the male

BY NIGEL HAWKES, SCIENCE EDITOR

MEN do better than women at university because they are more intelligent, a psychologist has said.

Professor Richard Lynn, recently retired from the University of Ulster, says he has confirmed results previously obtained in Britain by examining the degree results at four Irish universities. These show that men obtain 30 per cent more first-class degrees than women, a narrower gap than in Britain but still significant.

Professor Lynn dismisses claims that men are more highly motivated — "women in fact work harder", he says — and that universities have a male-dominated culture.

Men have bigger brains and a higher average IQ, by a few percentage points, sufficient to ensure an excess of men in the IQ range over 130, roughly the level needed to get a first-class degree, his paper, published in the journal *Personality and Individual Differences*, says.

In the past, Professor Lynn's controversial views, such as that racial groups vary in intelligence, led to student boycotts of his lectures.



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Jagger the rebel is called to account

BY CAROL MIDGLEY

MICK JAGGER has told former London School of Economics students about the burning point in his life, when he walked out of an accountability examination while a first-year student to devote himself to a fledgling band called the Rolling Stones.

However, the man remembered by many as the ultimate Sixties iconoclast may disappoint his fans by admitting that he spent most of his time at the LSE in the library. In a video to celebrate the institution's centenary, Jagger, who spent just one year there before enrolling in 1961, says: "I was in my accounting exam and it was a beautiful summer's day and I looked at the paper and

just said, 'No, this is not for me — I'm walking.' I just walked out of the exam and I never went back to the LSE."

His act of rebellion meant that he never gained his BSc in economics but Jagger, now 52, says he was far from a rebellious student. "I was a voracious reader and this was a wonderful new untapped source of knowledge. So I spent a lot of time in the library reading — wasting time if you like — and not applying myself to the course."

"I did the one year, but I was working with the Rolling Stones regularly at the weekends and it was hard to keep up the Rolling Stones and my



Jagger: walked out

college work." He said his time at the LSE had given him an intellectual gravitas not normally afforded to pop stars. "People thought rock singers were all completely

stupid and couldn't put two words together, so when people found I had been to the LSE they were really surprised. It gave me an introduction into a different intellectual world than the suburban upbringing I'd had."

The video was made free by the former students Loyd Grossman, now a television presenter, John Mair, an independent producer, and Clive Jones, chief executive of Carlton. They hope it will be sold to raise funds for the LSE. Mr Mair said: "Mick is undoubtedly the star of the show, although it took a year to get him on camera."

The LSE celebrated its centenary last year. A £15 million library is being built to mark the occasion.

Hotelier sues over wife's will

A MILLIONAIRE hotelier has issued a writ challenging the right of beneficiaries of his late wife's will to inherit from her estate.

Sir Charles Bracewell-Smith, whose family founded the Park Lane Hotel in London and who is a major shareholder of Arsenal Football Club, is seeking the return of jewellery, paintings and £494,000.

His wife Carol died in 1994 aged 47 from cancer. They were estranged at the time and she made bequests to a number of friends and carers in the last days of her illness.

Sir Charles claims some items were not hers to give away, including jewellery that had come from his grandmother.

Lady Bracewell-Smith's father, Norman Hough, a retired company director, said: "Charlie wants his money back from the estate and we support him. My daughter came under the influence of people during her last days fawning around her."

Waterstone to open stores for children

By DALYA ALBERGE, ARTS CORRESPONDENT

THE entrepreneur who founded the Waterstone's chain of bookshops is to open a £5 million department store devoted entirely to children.

Tim Waterstone, who built the 96-branch bookshop chain that he sold to W.H. Smith for more than £40 million in 1993, will base the new store on a theatrical design inspired by fairs and circuses. It will cater for children aged up to nine and will sell books, toys, videos and clothes, as well as offering hairdressing, puppet shows and "the most magnificent" soda fountain.

"I haven't seen anything like this anywhere," he said. "It will have the best of everything: the best of Harrods, the best of Hamleys, the best of the Gap, all under one roof."

The theatrical designer Lucy Algar will create the setting. The store will be named Daisy & Tom, after his daughter of 18 months and his partner's three-year-old son. It will open first in King's Road, west London; negotiations for the site are being completed.

Mr Waterstone, 56, is already planning to open

another store, in Kingston on Thames, next year and dreams of many more across the country. He senses a gap in the market, just as he did when he set up Waterstone's, a business that has been described as "arguably the modern book world's greatest success story".

He transformed bookselling with customer-friendly stores: stock was twice the size of other stores, opening hours extended into the night and Sundays, and staff included



Waterstone: he will sell books, toys and clothes

well-informed university graduates.

It was ironic that he should have sold the business to W.H. Smith: the company had fired him for losing money in its American market. He had joined them eight years earlier, in 1973. In September 1982, partly out of spite, as he put it, he set up his own shop. "I was never happy at Smith's and they were never happy with me."

Down to his last £6,000, he borrowed £10,000 from his father-in-law and mislaid his first day's takings, of £924, on the Tube. "I had them in a bag, got up and left the bag on the Tube. I never saw it again." By 1993, Waterstone's sales were in excess of £100 million.

Mr Waterstone, whose backer for Daisy & Tom is the publisher D.C. Thomson, said: "There's room for a really good bookseller for children. Our books will be awfully good, but they're only part of what we'll be selling. We'll be selling everything you could possibly need for children."



Beryl Burton and her daughter Denise, then 16, when they were selected to ride in the 1973 world championships. Burton had just won the British 3,000 metres pursuit title, beating a strong challenge from Denise

Former cycling champion Burton killed on Sunday afternoon ride

By PETER BRYAN

BERYL BURTON, the former international cyclist who dominated the sport for years and once vowed never to retire, has been killed in an accident while riding her racing bike.

Burton, 59, from Harrogate, was pronounced dead on arrival at Harrogate District Hospital after falling from her bicycle in Skipton Road yesterday morning. She is survived by her husband, Charlie, and daughter, Denise. In 1973 mother and daughter were both selected to ride for Britain in the world championships at Barcelona.

North Yorkshire police are anxious to trace a man wearing a green top who flagged down a passing motorist.

Burton rode competitively as recently as last October when the centenary of time trials was celebrated in Bedfordshire.

Britain's top female cyclist, Burton defeated a complicated form of rheumatic fever, by turning to sport. She went on to dominate British cycling for almost a quarter of a century.

For 25 years she was the unbeaten champion of Britain. Her records for time trials over 25, 50 and 100 miles still stand as does her distance record of 277.25 miles over 12 hours, set in 1967. The story goes that when she passed the leading male, she offered him a liquorice allsort "because he was struggling at bit".

She was also in the vanguard of champions at international level, winning her

first world pursuit championship in 1959 and, by 1973, adding a further four track titles to her successes and three silver and three bronze medals. She also dominated the road, winning the world title in 1960, a silver the following year and another world title in 1967.

Burton's proudest moments came when she twice lined up in world road race championships with her daughters alongside her as a member of Britain's team. They also rode against each other on occasions.

Burton, who received the MBE and OBE in recognition of her contribution to cycling, was a true cyclist and it became a family tradition that she, her husband Charlie and her daughter Denise would spend Christmases cycling, spending the holidays at youth hostels and enjoying the company of like-minded enthusiasts.



Burton, aged 24, in action in Milan

Woman dies after 16 years as hermit

By DOMINIC KENNEDY, SOCIAL AFFAIRS CORRESPONDENT

THE case of a girl who became a recluse at 13 and died of an apparent overdose 16 years later, was being investigated yesterday. Karen Morgan disappeared into the bedroom of her suburban home in 1980 and was next seen by neighbours being removed in a body bag last week.

Her brother Russell, 27, another recluse, is being treated in a psychiatric hospital after a suspected overdose. Police believe they made a suicide pact which went wrong. Karen had been dead for three days when her naked body was found, laid out on her bed.

Her parents Bob and Josie, who also lived in the three-bedroom semi-detached house in Erith, southeast London, were questioned by police although no charges have been brought against them.

Ron Brierly, chairman of social services for the London Borough of Bexley, said yesterday: "We frankly knew nothing about the family. Sometimes we don't know about families until disasters overwhelm them. Senior officers are investigating what happened."

Irene Horton, a neighbour who lives two doors away, said: "The last time I saw

Karen was when she was at school. I knew she had problems and played truant a lot even though she was very bright. She used to play out in the street with my daughters but as she got older she became more withdrawn. She stopped going to school."

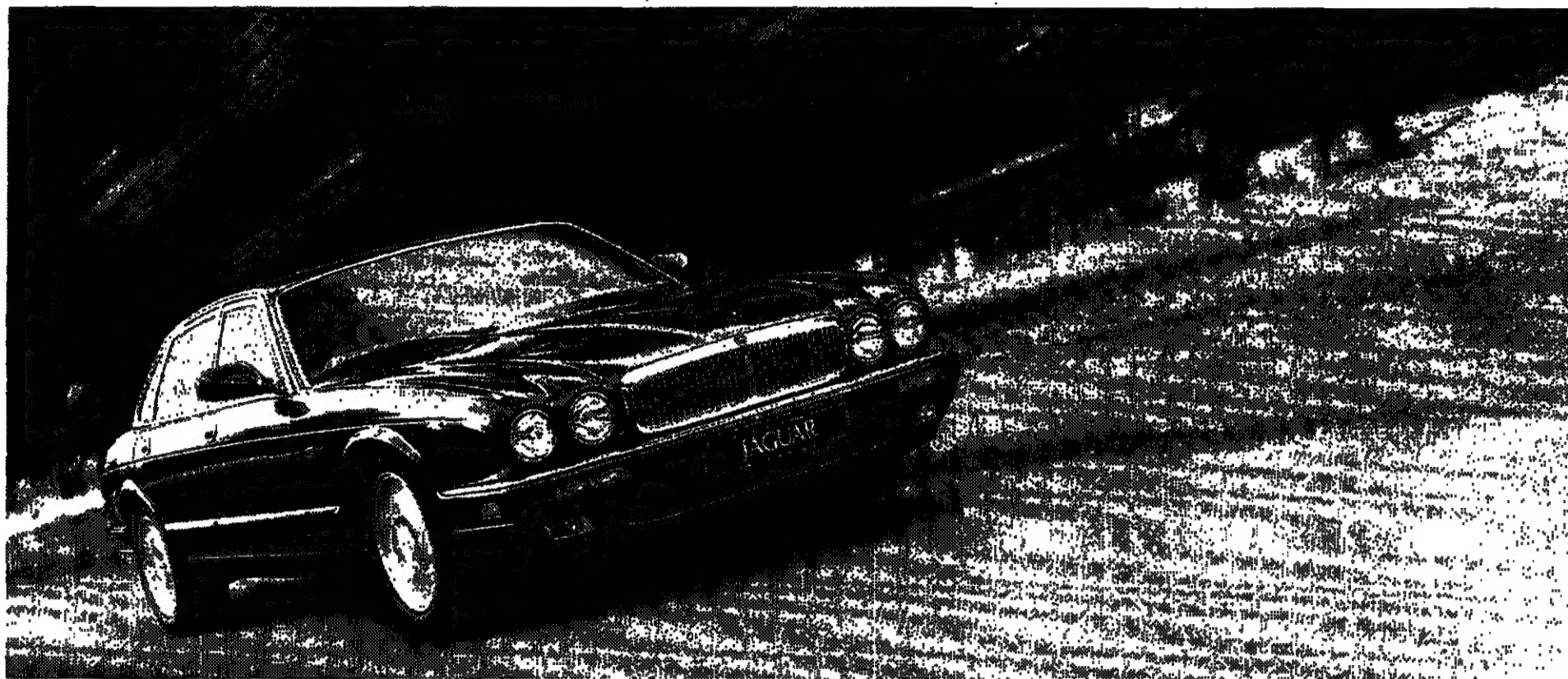
"Her brother Russell, who was at a special school, followed her lead and dropped out as well. I haven't seen him for years either, since he was in his early teens. I know Josie and Bob to speak to and they are a lovely couple, perfectly ordinary."

"I never spoke to them about their children because I think they were embarrassed that they would not leave the house. Everyone knew about Karen and Russell and thought they were just a bit strange but no more than that. Never in a million years did I expect it to end like this. It's all very sad. In all the time I've lived here I've never been inside their house."

The family never had any visitors. The door was not opened to anyone who knocked. Karen's meals used to be left by her parents on a tray outside her bedroom.

Council officials are checking education records to see what action was taken when she stopped attending school.

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فكرنا من الأصل

Is this the grave of Bader's missing Spitfire?

Aircraft hunters hail find of wreckage buried under 15 feet of French mud

FROM ALAN HAMILTON IN ST OMER

THE earth of northern France yielded up one of its deepest wartime secrets yesterday when a group of enthusiasts recovered what they believed to be the shattered remains of Sir Douglas Bader's Spitfire from 15ft of clay.

Yet the mystery-remains of exactly how and why Bader, one of the most enduringly famous flying aces of the Second World War, came down in a field near St Omer on August 9, 1941, during a huge and confused dogfight involving more than 100 British and German fighters.

The British war history enthusiasts on Operation Dogbody, led by Dilip Sarkar, 34, a West Mercia policeman, spent two days with a mechanical digger retrieving the engine, propeller, instruments and much of the cockpit. They are almost entirely certain that they have the right aircraft, but have still not found the maker's plate with the serial number W3185 that would positively identify it as Bader's, whose call sign was Dogbody.

Lady Bader, 76, who married Bader in 1975 after the death of his first wife, flew to France yesterday to inspect the remains, thick with clay and corrosion and dumped unceremoniously in the back of a farm trailer, awaiting removal to England for cleaning. She was uncertain of her feelings. Her initial reaction on seeing the mud-encrusted engine block of the Rolls-Royce Merlin, and a pile of aluminium scrap identifiable only to experts, was "God, what a mess."

"I am trying to think what Douglas would say. He would either say, 'Bloody idiots for digging this thing up', or he would have been out there helping them. It is history, I suppose, but I cannot help feeling that it would have been better left where it was. Doug-

las never talked about that day: it was not the proudest moment of his life. He wanted to be up in the air shooting down the enemy, not stuck in a German prisoner-of-war camp. But the bizarre thing is, if he had had his own legs, he would not have survived."

Bader had both legs amputated in 1931 when, as a newly qualified pilot, he crashed while performing aerobatics over a flying club. He continued to fly with two artificial legs. As his Spitfire began its plummet to the ground over St Omer, one leg became trapped

leg and sent a coded message to London asking if the RAF would fly him a replacement. They offered safe passage to the aircraft delivering the limb.

But the RAF had other ideas. They dropped a new leg by parachute from a passing Blenheim bomber on its way to pound Lille.

Bader briefly escaped from St Omer Hospital, but not before a nurse had taken as a souvenir one of his brass RAF uniform buttons. Her granddaughter, Madame Vincent Weplere, wearing the button on a necklace, tracked down Lady Bader yesterday and gave her a bouquet of English roses and French lilies. "My grandmother was very proud to have nursed such a brave man," she told Lady Bader.

In the book *Reach For The Sky*, Bader recalled dimly that he had been downed that day not by enemy fire but by a collision with a Messerschmitt. But the weekend diggers found one 20mm cannon shell among the wreckage, and when Bader featured on *This Is Your Life* shortly before his death in 1982, he joked that he had been shot down by fellow members of his own 616 Squadron who wanted his job as leader of the most glamorous wing in the air force. The suspicion, oddly, lingers.

Mr Sarkar and his team were delighted with their weekend's work, but are sure they have the right plane. "We know that only two aircraft were shot down in this area on that day, one German and one British," he said. "We have found part of an identification plate showing that this Spitfire, unusually, was made in Southampton when the majority were being built at Castle Bromwich; that also fits the known facts. And we have in addition the memories of the local people."



Lady Bader with part of the propeller yesterday

in the cockpit. He managed to detach the leg and bale out. He was found in a hedge by a 13-year-old boy, Arthur Dubreu. M Dubreu, now 68, recalled yesterday: "I could not understand it. I saw this man with only one leg, and that was twisted at an impossible angle. Yet I saw no blood. Before I could help him, German soldiers arrived and they chased me away."

Bader was taken to St Omer Hospital, where he was fêted and treated with a chivalrous courtesy by the German pilots. They recovered his missing



Corner of a foreign field: the Operation Dogbody team with the control panel of the Spitfire found near St Omer. The researchers have yet to find the maker's plate that would positively identify it as the one in which Bader led the RAF's most glamorous wing in the Battle of Britain



Blow-by-blow account records mayhem of ace's final dogfight

BY ALEXANDRA WILLIAMS

PILOTS' exchanges before Douglas Bader came down in a field near St Omer at 11.32am on August 9, 1941, were recorded by Beachy Head forward relay station, and preserved by Air Vice-Marshal Johnnie Johnson, a pilot officer on the sortie. Bader took off at 10.40am, leading his Spitfires on a target-support sortie. They were to pave the way for a bombing raid on the power station at Gosnay, near Bethune in north-east France. Near St Omer, Bader unwittingly led his flight into a trap: four apparently unsuspecting Me109s were attacked by Bader's

section of four Spitfires only for the Spitfires to be "bounced" in turn by undetected Me109s waiting above.

This is the transcript: Flying Officer Roy Marples (RM): Three bandits coming down astern of us. I'm keeping an eye on them, now there are six.

Douglas Bader (DB): OK. RM: Eleven of them now.

DB: OK. Roy, let me know exactly where they are.

RM: About one mile astern and slightly higher.

Beetle: Douglas, there is another 40-plus 15 miles to the northeast.

DB: OK Beetle. Are our friends where they are ought to be. I

haven't much idea where I am. DB: Yes you are exactly right. And so are your friends.

RM: Dogbody [Bader] from Roy. Keep turning left and you'll see 109s at nine o'clock.

DB: Ken, can you see them? Squadron Leader Ken Holden (KH): Douglas, 109s below. Climbing up.

DB: I can't see them, will you tell me where to look?

KH: Underneath Bill's section now. Shall I come down?

DB: No, I have them. Get into formation. Going down. Ken, are you with us?

KH: Just above you.

There followed a ferocious, confused dogfight. It was not recorded who was talking.

"Blue 2 here. Some buggers coming down behind, astern. Break, left. Break for Christ's sake, break!"

"Get into formation or they'll shoot the bloody lot of you!"

"Spitfire going down in flames, 10 o'clock."

"YQ-C [616 Squadron Spitfire]. Form up on me, I'm at three o'clock to you."

"Four buggers above us."

"All Elfin aircraft withdraw. I say again, all Elfin aircraft withdraw. Use the cloud if you're in trouble. Are you going home Ken?"

"Yes, withdrawing." "Ken from Crow. Are you still about?"

"I'm right behind you Crow." "Are we all here?" "Two short."

"Dogbody from Beetle. Do you require any assistance?"

"Beetle from Elfin Leader. We are OK and withdrawing."

"Thank you Billy. Douglas, do you require any assistance? Steer three four zero to the coast."

The silence was ominous.

Pilot Officer Johnson recalled: "There was this scream of 'Break' and we all broke, we didn't wait to hear it twice! Then a swirling mass of 109s and Spitfires. When I broke I could see Bader still firing. There

was some cloud and I disappeared into it as quickly as possible! I couldn't say how many aircraft were involved, suffice to say a lot. It seemed to me that the greatest danger was a collision, rather than being shot down."

"We had got the 109s we were bounding and then Holden came down with his section, so there were a lot of aeroplanes. There was an absolute mass of aeroplanes just 50 yards apart. It was awful. I thought to myself, 'You're going to collide with somebody! I didn't think about shooting at anything after we were bounced ourselves, all you could think about was surviving.'"

Veterans try to head off Dresden bombing critics

BY ADRIAN LEE

RAF VETERANS have defended the wartime bombing of Dresden, saying they are tired of allegations that it was a needless slaughter of thousands of civilians. By speaking out, they hope RAF charity collectors, who often face criticism from the public over the raid in 1945, will benefit.

The bombing, which killed about 35,000 people, is still the subject of fierce debate. Sir Arthur "Bomber" Harris was vilified for his part in the raid and Sir Winston Churchill later queried its validity.

In October 1992 the statue of Sir Arthur unveiled in London by Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother earlier that year was daubed with red paint. In the same year eggs were thrown at the Queen when she visited Dresden.

But writing in *Bomber Command News*, Air Marshal Sir Ivor Broom, 76, says: "In February 1945 the war was far from over. It was not a personal decision by Sir Arthur

Harris." The publication is independent and the article did not need RAF approval.

Sir Ivor, vice-president of the Bomber Command Association and former leader of the Bomber Command Development Unit in the 1950s, said yesterday: "There has been a plot of guff talked about Dresden. How the Hell can people say the war was nearly over



The "Bomber" Harris statue that was attacked

when Dresden was bombed? We lost another 400 bombers afterwards." The British had yet to cross the Rhine.

The article, titled "Dresden — Here are the Facts", says that the city was a strategic target and its destruction meant a considerable reduction in the effectiveness of the German war machine.

The campaign should have started with an American daylight raid on Dresden on February 13 but bad weather over Europe stopped the operation. It fell to Bomber Command to carry out the first raid on the night of February 13. A total of 796 Lancasters and nine Mosquitos were dispatched in two separate attacks on Dresden.

Doug Radcliffe, secretary of the association, said collectors for the RAF Benevolent Fund were frequently asked by the public to explain the Dresden raid. "We are tired of having to defend these allegations. We wished to clarify some points."

MEDICAL BRIEFING

How to preserve a life of drinking

ONE elderly pair of expatriates, we will call them the Patons, used, like swallows, to leave their winter residence each spring and return to Britain for a few weeks. For the past year or two they have not been and I assume that General Paton has finally died from his coronary heart disease, and his wife from a bleed from her oesophageal varices, varicose veins in the lower part of the gullet.

Would Mrs Paton still be alive if doctors had paid more heed to a report from the *New England Journal of Medicine* in 1992 on the advantages of obliterating oesophageal varices by banding them, rather than injecting them with a sclerosing fluid? An editorial in this week's *BMJ* bemoans the failure of the medical profession to adopt this procedure.

Mrs Paton was a fine example of a disappearing breed, she had married her husband while he was in the Army in India between the wars and had thereafter devoted her life to him, her children and their regiment.

As the general's military career flourished, so did the social life that went with it. Nobody could ever remember Mrs Paton being obviously intoxicated, in fact she never seemed to have had even a little too much to drink, but she was a generous hostess. Visitors were offered dry sherry with a morning biscuit, and a stiff drink before lunch, and

some wine to go with it. The Patons' evening hospitality was famous. Fifty years of heavy, regular social drinking can be too much for some livers, particularly female ones. Mrs Paton developed cirrhosis with a common complication of liver disease, oesophageal varices.

Like other varicose veins, those in the gullet are apt to bleed, but stopping this bleeding is altogether more difficult than stanching the flow from a vein in the leg. Bleeding from an oesophageal vein is often lethal and a wide variety of measures has been tried in efforts to stop it.

Balloons can be inflated to apply pressure to the bleeding point, or sometimes inserted; drugs are given to lower the pressure in the bleeding veins; but the treatment of choice over the past decade has been endoscopic sclerotherapy. In an emergency this injection can be life-saving and at other times the procedure is used to prevent future disaster. Mrs Paton regularly had her oesophageal varices injected.

The *BMJ* editorial draws attention to the greater benefits that follow the use of endoscopic band ligation, in which a band is slipped over the swollen vein. If the patient is fortunate it applies enough pressure to obliterate it.

DR THOMAS STUTTAFOED

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War bear to be sold for charity

BY ROBIN YOUNG

A TEDDY BEAR that survived the Second World War when a Russian officer saved it from bayonet practice is to be auctioned for charity and could fetch up to £5,000.

Most of the money paid for "Big Ted" at Sotheby's in London on May 22 will go to an orphanage in the former Yugoslavia.

Scena Isaac, Sotheby's teddy bear specialist, said the 1920s 4ft blond-furred bear,

made in the 1920s by the German firm Steiff, was a rarity because of its exceptional size. "He was probably made for display in a shop or a nursery," she said. "He is in wonderful condition, with a lovely friendly expression."

Nothing is known of the Russian officer who rescued Big Ted in 1944 except that his name was Paul. He took the bear to his lodgings in a village near Vienna and gave it to his landlady's two-year-old daughter, Gerhild Gilg.

Gerhild — now Mrs Radakovic, a 54-year-old mother of four grown-up children — said yesterday that she could remember a Russian officer returning one day carrying the bear, which towered over her.

"I remember being given the bear and thinking it was the largest one I had ever seen," she said. The bear was too big for her to play with. "We just used to sit him in the garden and watch people's amazement."

How police learn to operate on margins of the law

POLICE currently undergo courses teaching them how to break in and plant bugs in homes or offices, even though they lack the statutory power to do so.

The courses are part of a strategy developed by senior detectives in the game of cat and mouse with some of the most powerful criminals in the country. Targets have included armed robbers, south London gangsters and drug traffickers.

Some of the officers on such courses are members of the hand-picked surveillance teams developed by Scotland Yard's intelligence directorate, SO1. Others are members of provincial forces and regional crime squads. They are taught how to pick locks, open windows, bypass security systems and plant bugs discreetly. They are also taught to attach tracking devices and microphones to cars.

They operate on the margins of the law, and the courses emphasise that they must enter and leave undetected. A break-in is not a criminal offence if there is no intention to steal. However, it is a civil offence of trespass and any damage done could be used as part of a civil case for malicious damage. If the police decide to use the material in evidence they must persuade

MI5 will soon gain the legal right to enter and bug suspects' homes. Now the police want similar power, Stewart Tendler writes

each judge in each case that the evidence is admissible.

Until 1984 there were no official guidelines on carrying out break-ins. After pressure from chief constables the Home Office issued a confidential memorandum that is still used today. It specifies that breaking in and planting bugs can be done only where there is no other way to gather the intelligence they need. One former commander said: "It is not a fishing exercise. The operation has to be worth the risks that are taken. There have been a few narrow escapes over the years."

Officers must apply for permission from their chief constable and must show that there is no other way to gather the intelligence they need. One former commander said: "It is not a fishing exercise. The operation has to be worth the risks that are taken. There have been a few narrow escapes over the years."

The bugs are often built by police technicians and are now said to be as accurate and as miniaturised as the equipment used by the Security Service.

Most of the break-ins involve placing microphones and radio transmitters rather than cameras, because surveillance teams can easily photograph people coming and going. "What we are after is what they are plotting," one detective said.

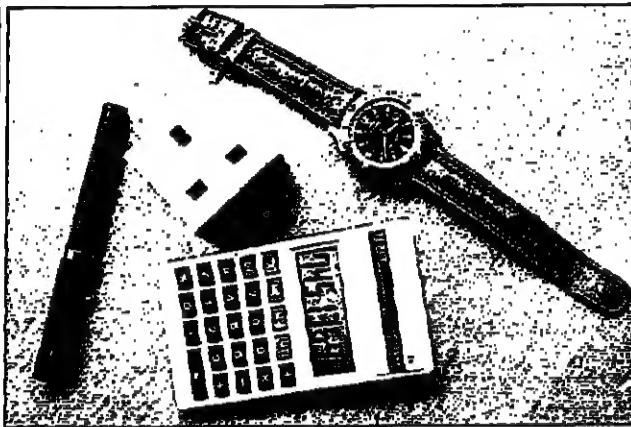
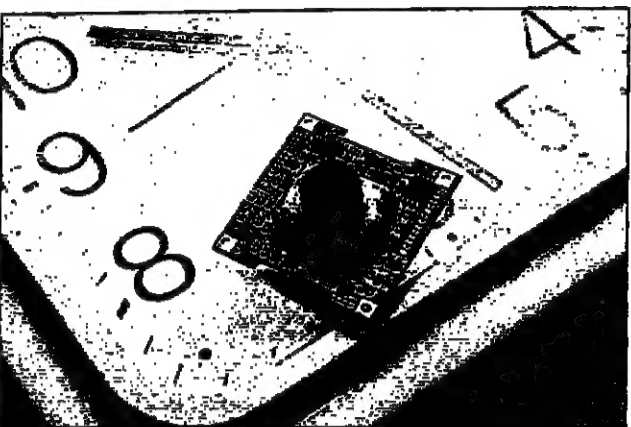
Before any operation begins, the target and his home are watched until the undercover police have a clear idea of his routine. They look for a time when the target should be well away from his base.

When the break-in team moves forward, a second unit is on watch outside and other surveillance officers cover the movements of the target. If the target appears on the verge of returning unexpectedly, they may try to divert him. The break-in team may carry a search warrant as a precaution and produce it if challenged, although this provides no statutory cover.

No team has yet been discovered carrying out a break-in, but tracking devices have been found on cars. The criminals usually hand them over to their solicitors.



Undercover police, such as in the film *Stakeout*, monitor the movements of targets. Everyday items, below, can be adapted as bugs. The clock on the left contains a hidden camera that takes pictures through the dot below the 8



Spies in quandary over legal niceties

By MICHAEL EVANS, DEFENCE CORRESPONDENT

THE involvement of MI5 in tackling organised crime will lead to legal dilemmas because of the paramount concern of the Security Service to protect its sources and operational methods.

Senior MI5 officers admit that they might have to restrict their inquiries because of the likelihood that intelligence officers will be required to disclose their activities in court as evidence, should there be a criminal prosecution. A judge might demand full disclosure, forcing the prosecution to abandon the case because the intelligence information is too sensitive to be disclosed in any form.

MI5 has been involved in the judicial process on a number of occasions, mainly in cases involving terrorist charges. Dame Stella Rimington, recently retired as MI5 Director-General, posed three questions: how far was it desirable

to reveal detailed information about operations; how was MI5 to ensure that sensitive sources of intelligence were protected while preserving the interests of justice; and how were MI5 operations to be conducted to ensure that intelligence could be admitted as evidence?

These issues will become even more important if MI5 officers regularly appear as witnesses in cases of organised crime. As a first step, MI5's controls and procedures for gathering, recording and collating intelligence have been tightened. Running an agent during an investigation into serious crime, MI5 officers have to follow strict procedures: operations are monitored by senior managers as well as by legal advisers.

Before any trial, MI5 has to open its files to the Crown Prosecution Service, including telephone tap and eavesdrop-

ping material, to make sure no rules have been broken. These controls are far tougher than those required of the police.

MI5 also keeps detailed records of its operations, including all meetings with agents as well as eavesdropping, search and surveillance missions.

Dame Stella, who pressed the Home Secretary to let MI5 fight organised crime in support of the police, acknowledged that the challenge would be to ensure that where civil liberties were infringed, through tapping and break-ins, the controls and oversight were tight enough to demonstrate to a court that MI5 had acted within the law.

Tomorrow *The Times* looks at the implications of bugged conversations being used in criminal prosecutions, and at cases where police have operated covertly.

Elite MI5 'watchers' would be used in supporting role

By MICHAEL EVANS, DEFENCE CORRESPONDENT

MI5's elite surveillance experts, known as the "watchers", will be deployed against selected criminal groups once the Security Service has been given statutory powers to expand its intelligence-gathering operations against organised crime.

The exploits of the watchers are legendary within the service, where they are known as mobile surveillance officers. They are a relatively small group of highly skilled, specialist officers, some of them ex-military, who work in vehicles, on foot and from fixed observation posts.

They are among the most prized officers in MI5 because they have acquired unique surveillance skills over many years of following suspected Russian spies and every type of terrorist — Irish, Middle Eastern and Far Eastern. During the Cold War, the MI5 watchers had to keep tabs on Soviet intelligence officers, who used every evasive device to escape their shadows. Cars packed with heavyweight

Soviet security men would drive around London at speed, creating false trails. One KGB officer used to try to merge into the countryside by wearing plus-fours.

The watchers' expertise is much in demand in all areas of MI5 operations, however, and since their numbers are limited they will not be diverted in force to begin surveillance operations on criminal organisations involved in drug trafficking, money laundering and counterfeiting. Their involvement will depend on a daily assessment of priorities.

The watchers work for MI5's intelligence resources and operations branch, which is split into several sections. It includes a section that consists of technical officers who are trained in the art of breaking into houses and business premises without leaving a calling card. The service calls this "interfering with property" — always with a warrant signed by the Home Secretary. They enter premises to carry

out clandestine searches and, when approved, to plant bugging devices.

MI5's most valuable secret intelligence, however, does not come from buggings and telephone taps but from information supplied by agents working within a suspected organisation. Agent operations are often conducted over long periods and this method of intelligence-gathering will also be used when MI5 takes on organised crime.

MI5 currently has nine staff — desk officers and clerks — working to establish with the various law enforcement agencies what sort of role the Security Service will play in combating organised crime.

The intention is for a few MI5 officers to be seconded to the police, principally the National Criminal Intelligence Service (NCIS). Although MI5 will only be in a supporting role to the police, Security Service officers will run their own operations — but with "full visibility" to police and Customs.

NEWS IN BRIEF

BSkyB and Virgin in TV talks

Richard Branson's Virgin group and the satellite television company BSkyB confirmed yesterday that they had held talks about launching a joint cable and satellite television station.

The talks were initiated after both companies failed in their bids for the licence to operate Channel 5, Britain's fifth terrestrial television station. It is understood the proposed channel would be designed to appeal to a young adult audience and would probably bear the Virgin name.

News International, the subsidiary of The News Corporation that owns *The Times*, owns 40 per cent of BSkyB.

Search resumes

A search for a teenager swept out to sea by high waves at Whitby, North Yorkshire, resumed at first light. Stephen Thomas, 15, was playing on a slipway. His friend, Christopher Evans, 13, also caught by the waves, is recovering in hospital.

Heroin seized

Customs officers have seized 12kg of heroin and 18kg of a cutting agent with a total street value of £2 million in the British controlled zone at the French end of the Channel Tunnel. Two Dutch nationals, a man aged 75 and a woman aged 48, have been arrested.

Hard to swallow

A toddler with breathing difficulties was found to have had a penny stuck in his gullet for three months. The parents of Cameron Wells, aged two, from Hartlepool, are keeping the coin for their son as a souvenir after it was removed in an emergency operation.

Dog campaign

A campaign to clear pavements of dog mess and promote other aspects of responsible pet ownership will be launched at Battersea Dogs' Home tomorrow. The Good Dog Campaign is one of several initiatives being run to mark National Pet Week.

Railway fires

The steam engine *Union of South Africa*, an A4 Pacific left several small fires on a 13-mile stretch of embankment along the Settle-Carlisle Railway. Railtrack is to review the use of steam engines, and might consider running them under light steam.

Two share £22m

Two tickets shared the £21.8 million rollover jackpot in Saturday's National Lottery. Fifteen tickets won £258,238 for five numbers plus bonus ball. 909 matched five numbers for £2,663, and 60,000 got £91 for four correct numbers. Winning numbers, page 18

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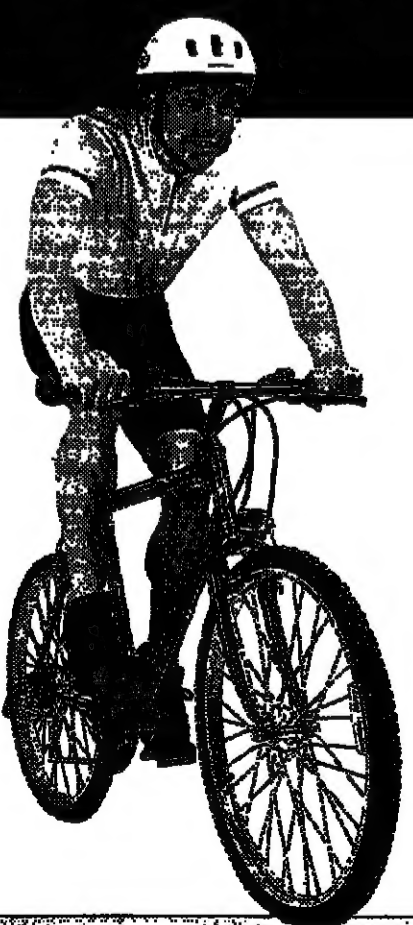
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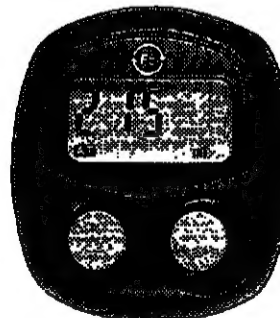


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Worshippers hit by rave scandal put their faith in rector

By ROBIN YOUNG

THE Nine O'Clock Service, the "rave" church that collapsed last summer when Chris Brain, its vicar, admitted sexually abusing women in his congregation, was consigned yesterday to the safe hands of a grey-haired, bespectacled country rector.

The Rev Philip Allin, 52, who was named by the Diocese of Sheffield as the new chaplain to the Nine O'Clock Service's former members, said: "I am not a rave vicar, and I am not an expert in multimedia worship."

Mr Allin was chosen for the post from a shortlist of three men and one woman after an advertisement in the *Church Times* had attracted applications from across the world.

Mr Brain, 38, ran services in the style of rock concerts at the Ponds Forge sports centre in Sheffield. They featured strobe lighting, laser beams, dry-ice vapour and pounding rock music, with the congregation often wearing T-shirts and mini-skirts.

He was forced to resign after he admitted sexual misconduct with more than 30 of his followers, and is now believed to be in America trying to establish a career as a rock musician.

Despite his departure some 50 members of the congregation were determined to carry on with the evangelical gatherings. The new name has yet to be agreed but the new meeting place is the Hill Top Chapel in Attercliffe, Sheffield, the city's oldest place of worship after the Anglican cathedral.

Mr Allin, until now team

rector of the Hermitage team ministry in rural Berkshire, said yesterday at the chapel that it was a big change for him to move to Sheffield.

He had met members of the Nine O'Clock Service congregation and was very impressed by them. "The difficulty is going to be making contact with those people who have been particularly hurt."

Mr Allin trained as a social worker and was a mental welfare officer with Nottinghamshire County Council in the 1960s. He was ordained in 1971 and is a trained Relate counsellor. In 1993 he completed a diploma course in psychodynamic counselling at Reading University.

The Venerable Stephen Lowe, the Archdeacon of Sheffield, whose investigations exposed Mr Brain's transgressions, said: "It was someone with this sort of experience, maturity and counselling skills that we were looking for, not some sort of new guru."



Allin: admits that he "is no guru"

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Founding fathers prepare a poisoned chalice for Britain

The blue and gold European Union flag may not flutter over government buildings in Scotland on Thursday, but reminders of Europe have a way of slipping through the defences of British politicians just when they least want to think about the world beyond Calais.

Starting that night, BBC 2 will screen a quartet of neatly timed films. *The Poisoned Chalice*, which chronicles the fear and loathing which the drive to unite Europe has injected into British politics. The present Tory Cabinet discussing Europe may resemble a family of rabbits caught in several sets of

headlights at once, but retelling the whole dispiriting story serves to remind us that the ministers of today are not the first furry animals who froze when confronted by these dilemmas.

The backroom boys from the Benelux who built the EEC recall for the cameras the Euro-sceptical contempt with which the Foreign Office of the 1950s greeted the idea that six continental states could organise a supra-national community. Edward Heath exudes contentment at British humiliations. Retired British mandarins and former ministers too numerous to count begin their sentences



with the words "We just did not foresee..."

Charles Powell, Margaret Thatcher's adviser, remembers being taken aside by Helmut Kohl when the German Chancellor invited the

Prime Minister to his country home in the Rhineland. Please explain to her, Herr Kohl asked, that I am first and foremost a European and not a German. Powell failed. After a long day being squirmed around tombs of Holy Roman Emperors and eating pig's stomach, Mrs Thatcher sank into her seat on the aircraft home and cried: "My God, that man is so German!"

Germans often say that European integration prevents the Continent's states slipping backwards towards dangerously unstable 19th-century "balance-of-power" politics. *The Poisoned Chal-*

ice not only shows that to be naive but also underlines a paradox: federalists have only been able to nudge states towards unity by using the old-fashioned statecraft long practised by sovereign nations. In these games, enduring alliances tend to win. Mrs Thatcher lost on points to Herr Kohl, the late François Mitterrand and Jacques Delors. A triumvirate linking the leaders of Germany and France with a super-bureaucrat was unbeatable while it lasted.

By vividly retelling the story of Britain's first and failed attempt to join the EEC in the early 1960s, the docu-

mentaries reveal how one partnership reshaped the system to Britain's lasting disadvantage. The EEC's spiritual fathers, Jean Monnet and Robert Schumann, may have drawn the blueprint, but the machinery was then altered to suit the strategies of Charles de Gaulle and Konrad Adenauer.

De Gaulle made sure that he would not be deserted by Germany when he did something which upset almost everybody else. Several of those interviewed lament that by not joining the EEC at its foundation in 1956, Britain forfeited the chance to "lead

Europe". But the reasoning that led de Gaulle to "squash" Britain's application in 1963 was the reasoning of a man determined that Britain should neither lead Europe nor interfere with the Franco-German alliance. Several senior French officials of the time tell the story without the slightest trace of embarrassment. De Gaulle's knew that Adenauer would not insist that Britain should be allowed in. Britain sat on the outside for another decade.

The stakes have risen since. The EU has moved into the most sensitive and important areas of national autonomy — currencies, armies, crime

and frontiers — and have provoked unprecedented objections from voters. But the Franco-German understanding survives.

Tony Blair should watch *The Poisoned Chalice*. You may search his speeches. Peter Mandelson's book-length manifesto and Labour Party conference decisions for clues as to how a Labour government might deal with the conflicts of interest in today's European power politics. On how Labour's leader might avoid being poisoned from the chalice, such documents are silent.

GEORGE BROCK

Yeltsin may delay election to avoid defeat, rival claims

FROM RICHARD BEESTON IN MOSCOW

GENNADI ZYUGANOV, the Russian Communist Party leader and favourite in next month's presidential elections, said yesterday that the Kremlin may try to postpone the polls rather than face defeat.

Speaking after one of President Yeltsin's closest advisers said he was in favour of cancelling the vote, Mr Zyuganov vowed that the left-wing opposition would see to it that the elections would take place as planned on June 16.

"The party of power is afraid of losing the election because it is not coping with the situation," the Communist leader told *Pravda* yesterday. "Authorities are ready to take away the right of citizens to correct the situation through the ballot box."

His warning took on added force after the statement by General Aleksandr Korzhakov, the influential Kremlin security chief, that he is in favour of scrapping next

months polls. In an interview with *The Observer*, the burly Yeltsin confidant and former KGB officer, said that he wanted to call off the elections to avoid bloodshed. "A lot of influential people are in favour of postponing the elections and I am in favour of it too because we need stability," General Korzhakov said during a May Day rally in Moscow.

"If we have the elections, there is no way of avoiding a fight," he said. "If Yeltsin wins, the radical opposition will claim the results were falsified and there will be unrest. If Zyuganov wins, even if he wants to take a centrist line, the same people will not let him and they will scream."

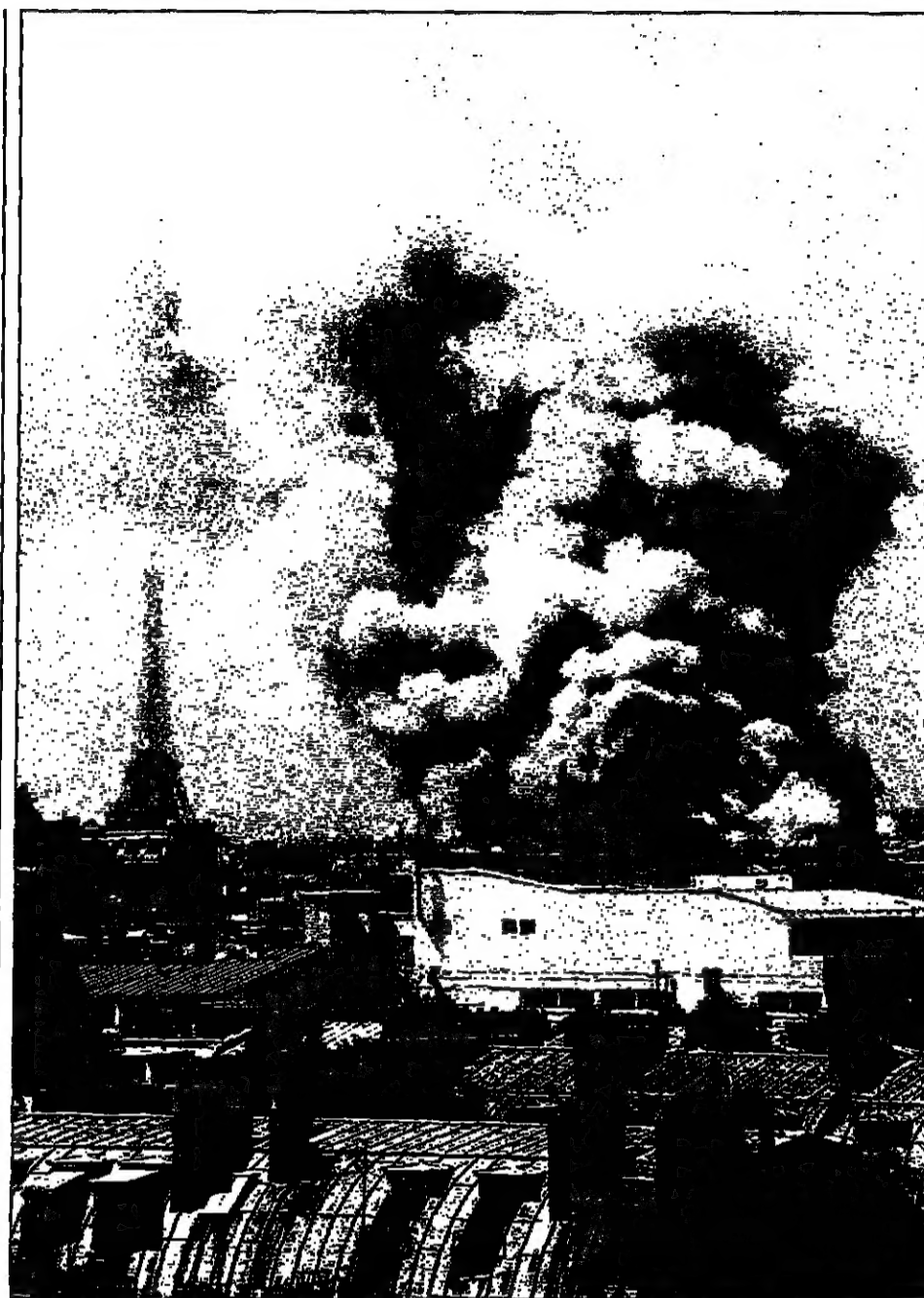
The Kremlin tried to distance itself yesterday from the remarks and said President Yeltsin was committed to holding the elections as planned. He is expected to

meet Mr Zyuganov in the coming days to discuss the matter.

Nevertheless, as polling day approaches an increasing number of top figures in the Kremlin, the intelligence services and the private sector have concluded that a peaceful transfer of power to the Communists is impossible. Many fear that they will be stripped of their wealth and imprisoned in a tide of retribution. General Korzhakov would be particularly vulnerable. He led the assault team of special forces troops which stormed the Moscow White House in October 1993 and arrested the headline leaders of the anti-Yeltsin uprising. Many of those same people are today allied to the Communists.

Although the Russian leader could cancel the elections, he must be aware that the consequences would be devastating. For a start, Western leaders have served notice, most recently during the G7 summit in Moscow last month, that they would drop their financial and political backing for his regime if he tried to stay in power illegitimately. At home, such a move would almost certainly lead to bloodshed. Radical nationalist and Communist factions, who now are prepared to take part in the democratic process, would almost certainly resort to violence in an effort to remove President Yeltsin.

Although he can count on the loyalty of an estimated 20,000 carefully chosen troops based in and around the capital, there is a good chance that parts of the armed forces would mutiny and that many regions would cease to recognise the Kremlin's authority. Probably the best guarantee for the elections being held is President Yeltsin himself. As he campaigns around the country he seems increasingly confident that he will be able to narrow Mr Zyuganov's lead in the opinion polls and convince the Russian people to re-elect him.



Thick smoke billows from the burning Crédit Lyonnais building. It took 300 firemen to bring the blaze, which started in a computer room, under control

Fire engulfs French bank

Paris: A spectacular fire engulfed the Paris headquarters of the state-owned Crédit Lyonnais Bank yesterday, injuring 23 people and sending a thick column of black smoke over the city's skyline that was visible from Versailles, ten miles away (Ben Macintyre writes).

The fire broke out at the building, near the Place de l'Opéra, at 8.30am and 300 firemen from 23 fire stations around Paris worked until late afternoon to bring the blaze under control.

The Crédit Lyonnais building, which is listed as a national monument, was built in 1878 with features attributed to Gustave Eiffel, architect of the city's most famous landmark.

Nineteen firemen and four security guards were treated for smoke inhalation or burns and one person suffered serious facial wounds.

The fire appeared to have started in one of the bank's computer rooms on the first floor, possibly from a short-circuit, and then quickly

spread to the upper floors of building. Officials said there was no danger of the fire spreading to the refurbished opera house, the Palais Garnier, but occupants of neighbouring buildings were forced to evacuate as clouds of smoke and flames billowed through the windows of the burning bank.

The speed at which the fire spread and the "very big problems" controlling it were due to the age of the building and the lack of fire doors, the fire department said.

Engineer strikes blow for cleaner Paris air

FROM BEN MACINTYRE IN PARIS

THE French Ministry of the Environment is considering installing 70,000 electric fans on buildings across Paris to blow a gentle breeze through the smoggy streets and combat chronic air pollution.

The fans, each 5 in in diameter, would be placed on balconies, window ledges and roofs, creating an artificial wind with an approximate speed of 3 mph, under a scheme submitted to the Government by Yves Lecoffre, a Grenoble engineer. "Once they have been spread out in the neighbourhoods, the fans will push dirty air from the streets," M Lecoffre said.

The Environment Ministry has appointed two scientists to evaluate M Lecoffre's plan, which he has named *Myriaflow*. One supports the project, *Le Figaro* reported, while the other has expressed reservations but offered M Lecoffre the use of a laboratory for further experiments.

During last winter's transport strike when millions of people were forced to drive to work, the air pollution in Paris reached record levels. A survey released earlier this year found that 350 people die every year in the capital from heart and respiratory ailments linked to air pollution. At least 80 per cent of the pollution in Paris is caused by traffic.

M Lecoffre estimated that installing the fans throughout the city's 6,658 streets would cost less than Fr400 million (£51.6 million), while the energy consumed "would be negligible compared to the service rendered". A central command-post would regulate the fans by remote control depending on climatic conditions and pollution levels.

Le Figaro described the project to put the wind up Paris as revolutionary, although it remains to be seen how the citizens (and pigeons) of the capital would respond to having fans whirling on their window ledges.

Quite apart from its environmental advantages, anything that cools over-heated Parisian motorists is likely to save lives.



Bossi: urged secession at a weekend rally

Bossi puts case for breakup of Italy

FROM RICHARD OWEN IN ROME

UMBERTO BOSSI, leader of the separatist Northern League, yesterday stepped up his campaign for the breakup of Italy by demanding a "Czechoslovak-style" division of the country after his party's recent electoral success.

The move was condemned last night by President Scalfaro, and also indirectly by the Pope, who said while visiting the Northern League stronghold of Como that the well-being of Italian workers depended on "social solidarity" and "national unity".

In the election two weeks ago the Northern League, which in 1994 was part of the Centre-Right coalition led by Silvio Berlusconi, refused to ally itself with either Left or Right. It won 10 per cent of the vote, with 59 seats in the Lower House and 27 in the Senate. The new Centre-Left Government of Romano Prodi, which will take power after the new parliament convenes on Thursday, opposes secession.

Signor Prodi said Italy was "one and indivisible". Italian newspapers said the Prodi Government would be further strengthened by the inclusion of Antonio Di Pietro, the charismatic former "Clean Hands" anti-corruption magistrate, as Minister of Public Works.

In a letter to Signor Prodi, Signor Di Pietro ended weeks of speculation about his role by saying the historic shift to the Left had at last given Italy a measure of stability. As a technocratic "non-political" minister, he could continue the work of "Clean Hands" by ensuring "transparency" in the award of large public contracts.

Addressing Northern League deputies at the so-called "Parliament of the North" in Mantua, Signor Bossi insisted that Italian federalism had outlived its usefulness. He criticised the Rome authorities — Left and Right — as centralist, colonialist and racist.

"It is time to sit round the table and divide the country up," he said. Because of the wealth of the North and the backwardness of the South, there were now "two economies in Italy" and should therefore be two governments and two central banks.

Palermo: Salvatore Cucuzza, 49, reputedly a senior Mafia leader, who had been on the run for years, has been arrested, police said. (Reuters)

Chechens shoot down Russian warplane

Moscow: Chechen rebels yesterday shot down a Russian warplane over southern Chechnya in a demonstration by the separatists that they are not yet ready to talk peace with the Kremlin (Richard Beeston writes).

According to an air force officer in Moscow, the Su-25 was hit while on a reconnaissance flight and crashed near the village of Matrup, killing both crewmen. According to the Russian military, the aircraft was the fifth lost during the 16-month conflict.

The shooting down of the warplane came after fierce fighting on Saturday in Grozny, the Chechen capital, when rebel forces launched a two-hour assault on the Interior Ministry headquarters in which at least one Russian soldier was killed.

The upsurge in rebel attacks

sent a strong signal to Moscow that the separatist leadership is not yet ready to reopen negotiations with Moscow, in spite of an offer from President Yeltsin last week to travel to the republic and meet the secessionist movement later this month.

Zelimkhan Yandarbiyev, the newly-appointed Chechen rebel leader, who replaced Dzhokhar Dudayev after his death last month, yesterday set two new preconditions for any talks with the Russians. He insisted that only representatives of the Chechen rebels and the Russians should take part in the dialogue and not the pro-Moscow Chechen Government in Grozny. Mr Yandarbiyev also ruled out contact with any Russian who did not first formally declare that he had taken no part in Dudayev's killing.

Aznar names Cabinet and ushers in new era of austerity

FROM TUNKU VARADARAJAN IN MADRID



José María Aznar, the new Spanish Prime Minister, and his wife Ana Botella in Madrid yesterday

THE leader of the conservative Popular Party was sworn in yesterday as Prime Minister of Spain by King Juan Carlos, ending 13 uninterrupted years of Socialist rule.

José María Aznar, 43, heads Spain's first elected Government of the Right since the death of General Franco. He succeeds Felipe González who was until yesterday, with Helmut Kohl, the German Chancellor, the longest-serving leader in Western Europe.

Señor Aznar's path to the Moncloa — Spain's 10 Downing Street — has been an arduous one. The Popular Party won only the narrowest victory in the elections held on March 3 and has been able to form a Government only because of parliamentary support from Catalan, Basque and Canary Islands nationalists.

Although the Canary Islanders pledged him their support from the start, the Catalans and Basques reluc-

ed only after wringing considerable concessions from Señor Aznar. Jordi Pujol, the Catalan leader, was able to impose conditions on Señor Aznar almost at will. But the new Prime Minister can now count on 181 deputies in the 350-member house.

The new 14-member Cabinet, which will be announced formally today and will include two deputy prime ministers, comprises four women, two independents and few surprises. Of particular interest to Britain, however, is the appointment of Abel Matutes as Foreign Minister.

This francophile former European Commissioner is expected to press for still greater European integration, suggesting that those analysts who believed that Señor Aznar had Euro-sceptical leanings were mistaken. Señor Matutes is also likely to adopt a hard line on Gibraltar.

Señor Aznar's new minister in

charge of agriculture and fisheries, another area where Anglo-Spanish relations are often sour, will be Loyola de Palacio, a hard-headed lawyer from the Right of the party. She, too, is unlikely to prove conciliatory over fishing disputes.

If there is a surprise in the Cabinet, it lies in the appointment as Defence Minister of Eduardo Serra, an independent who has worked with successive Socialist governments. The bookish Señor Serra is thought, like his Prime Minister, to favour the integration of Spain into Nato's command structure.

The most important member in the Cabinet will be Rodrigo Rato, Señor Aznar's right-hand man and the Deputy Prime Minister in charge of the economy. To him will fall the task of meeting the Maastricht treaty's convergence criteria for monetary union.

Equally testing for Señor Rato will

be the implementation of his party's financial promises made to the Catalans and Basques. A greater degree of fiscal autonomy for the provinces was a key concession won by the regions.

In the investiture debate last week Señor Aznar committed himself to a "more austere" Government, as well as to the abolition of compulsory military service. The debate, in which both Señor Aznar and Señor González spoke at great length, was conducted in a spirit of extraordinary courtesy, a far cry from the aggressive exchanges which marked debates between both men in the last parliament.

Ita man held: Antonio Utrutikoebea, a former Basque guerrilla leader, has been remanded in custody in Madrid after being questioned by a Spanish supreme court judge after his deportation from France. (AFP)

Leading article, page 15

A NOVEL idea

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Dole broadside at Clinton deflected by party feuding

FROM MARTIN FLETCHER IN WASHINGTON

BOB DOLE, the Republican presidential challenger, launched his harshest attack yet on President Clinton at the weekend, but his criticism was largely eclipsed by two rows within his own party.

Ralph Reed, head of the Christian Coalition, incensed social conservatives by suggesting softening the party's official commitment to a constitutional amendment banning all abortions.

Alfonse D'Amato, Mr Dole's campaign co-chairman, accused Newt Gingrich, the House Speaker, of damaging Mr Dole and the party by pushing an extreme agenda.

As the Republicans quarrelled, Mr Clinton sought to consolidate his support among centrist voters by announcing measures to end welfare benefits to teenage mothers who refuse to live at home or finish school. Mr Dole, who trails Mr Clinton by 20 points, finally came out swinging with a speech in

New York in which he accused his rival of leading America down "the dangerous road of weakness and stagnation".

For once sticking to his prepared text, Mr Dole said Mr Clinton had presided over a "short, sad interlude of American waffling and weakness in world affairs" which had "telegraphed indecision and weakness to the world".

Mr Dole said Mr Clinton's vetoes of Republican welfare reforms, tax cuts and budget plans made him "the rear-guard of big government and the welfare state, the champion of the Great Society status quo". The President "talked conservatively while walking knee-deep in the swamps of liberalism, and it doesn't bother him a bit. He will look you in the eye and tell you exactly what you want to hear."

Aides said the speech marked a new phase in the campaign, but its impact was blunted by the Republicans' internal dissension. Social

conservatives accused Mr Reed of "sending up the white flag of surrender" after he suggested rewriting the party's divisive platform so it did not explicitly demand all abortions be made illegal.

Mr Reed argued that a constitutional amendment could not be achieved presently and said that Republicans should focus on other anti-abortion measures. Mr Reed is a Dole supporter, and some conservatives saw his views as part of a wider plot to free the party's presidential challenger from a platform anathema to many moderate voters.

Conservatives suspected that Senator D'Amato, who accompanied Mr Dole to New York, was also doing his bidding by repudiating the unpopular Gingrich "revolution" and accusing the House Speaker of pushing an agenda that left the Republicans looking mercenary. A Gingrich spokesman called Senator D'Amato "utterly wrong".



Gamaa al-Islamiya members gesture from a prison van after they were jailed by a Cairo court yesterday

Egyptian militants sentenced to death

A CAIRO court sentenced three Islamic militants to death yesterday and imprisoned 19 for up to 25 years for killing police officers and belonging to the illegal Gamaa al-Islamiya group trying to topple the Egyptian Government (Our Foreign

Staff writes). Khaled Ibrahim Omar, recognised as Gamaa's spiritual leader, was jailed for 15 years. Seven defendants were acquitted. The accused sang and chanted before the court session began. Also yesterday, Cairo police arrested an un-

named Egyptian who allegedly spied for Russia and Iraq.
 □ **Algeria** poll: President Zeroual of Algeria has announced parliamentary elections for early next year and called a conference on constitutional reforms.

Israel and PLO open talks with optimism

By ROSS DUNN
IN JERUSALEM
AND MICHAEL BINYON

ISRAELI and Palestinian negotiators last night began talks aimed at reaching a final settlement to their conflict as a first step towards a comprehensive Middle East peace accord.

The talks will focus on the Palestinian demand for an independent state based on the territories of the Gaza Strip and the West Bank but with Jerusalem as its capital.

Officials from both sides say the meeting will discuss the agenda for what will be arduous negotiations, which could drag on for years, to settle the most complicated aspects of the Arab-Israeli conflict.

The topics include the future of Jerusalem, Palestinian refugees, Jewish settlements on the West Bank and Gaza Strip, security, borders and economic co-operation. Access to water will also be discussed.

The Israeli Government and the Palestine Liberation Organisation have given themselves up to three years to complete what they have labelled final status negotiations. The meeting is the last chapter in a process which began with the signing of a declaration of principles in September 1993 on the lawns of the White House.

On the eve of the meeting, Uri Savir, Israel's chief peace negotiator, expressed confidence that Palestinians and Israelis would succeed in creating a lasting peace. The Palestinian team, led by Mahmoud Abbas, also expressed cautious optimism.

In Cairo, Susanna Agnelli, the Italian Foreign Minister, heading an European Union delegation to the Middle East, said yesterday the world had wronged Lebanon over last month's Israeli attacks. She also agreed with Egypt that the United States had bent too far towards Israel in its attempt to mediate during the fighting.

Her outspoken criticism of American "bias" has embarrassed Italy's European Union partners and is likely to provoke strong resentment in Washington and in Israel.

General Amnon Shahak, the Israeli Army Chief of Staff, admitted that some of his artillery gunners who shelled a United Nations camp in south Lebanon last month had made "some errors". At a Cabinet meeting, he rejected a UN report that members of his force had deliberately targeted the compound, killing 102 refugees.

□ **Manama**: Explosions triggered by booby-trapped cigarette packets rocked local and foreign firms across Bahrain before dawn yesterday, causing millions of dollars in damage but no injuries. A government official last night denounced the attacks as "terrorist acts". (AFP)

Red Cross team see hostages

Jakarta: Four British hostages and seven others, being held by separatists in Indonesia's Irian Jaya, were visited yesterday by a Red Cross official and a doctor. No details were given. It was the first time since March 27 the scientists, seized on January 8, had been seen by outsiders. An April visit was prevented by bad weather. One Dutch hostage, Martha Klein, is seven months pregnant. (Reuters)

Day of mourning

Port Louis: Mauritius has declared today a day of mourning following the death of Sir Gaetan Duval, a former Foreign Minister and the enfant terrible of Mauritian politics (Scott Straus writes).

Dahmer sale

New York: The possessions of Jeffrey Dahmer, who murdered and ate 17 young men before he was beaten to death in jail, may be sold on the Internet to raise compensation for his victims' families.

Bodies inquiry

Hong Kong: President Ramos of the Philippines has ordered an inquiry into disclosures that squabbling undertakers mutilated and even lost many of the 162 victims of the Ozone discotheque fire last March.

Florentine heretic finds a champion

FROM RICHARD OWEN
IN ROME

PLANS are being made to beatify Girolamo Savonarola, the moralistic scourge of corrupt 15th-century Florence whose name became a byword for fire and brimstone puritanism and who was executed for heresy.

Members of the Dominican Order, to which Savonarola belonged, announced a campaign to have the excommunication of the famous "prophet of anti-corruption" overturned. Father Armando Verde, a Dominican scholar in Pistoia who has made a life study of Savonarola and has put all his sermons on computer, said the aim was to rehabilitate Savonarola in time for the 500th anniversary of his death in two years' time.

Savonarola's thunderous anathemas on corruption and abuse of power by the Medici family have powerful resonances in modern Italy. Memories are still fresh of the *Mani pulite* (Clean hands) anti-corruption campaign by magistrates in Milan which brought down the discredited Christian Democrats in 1992 after a near monopoly of power lasting four decades.

The chief architect of "Clean hands", Antonio Di Pietro, apparently has agreed to serve as a minister in the centre-left Government of Romano Prodi when the new parliament convenes in Rome this week.

Father Verde said the legacy of Savonarola was clearly of direct relevance to the moral impulse that lay behind the Left's election victory two

weeks ago. Savonarola's increasingly fiery campaign to purge Italy of sin and corruption led to clashes with Pope Alexander VI, a Borgia who led a dissolute life and had several illegitimate children, four of them by the same mistress.

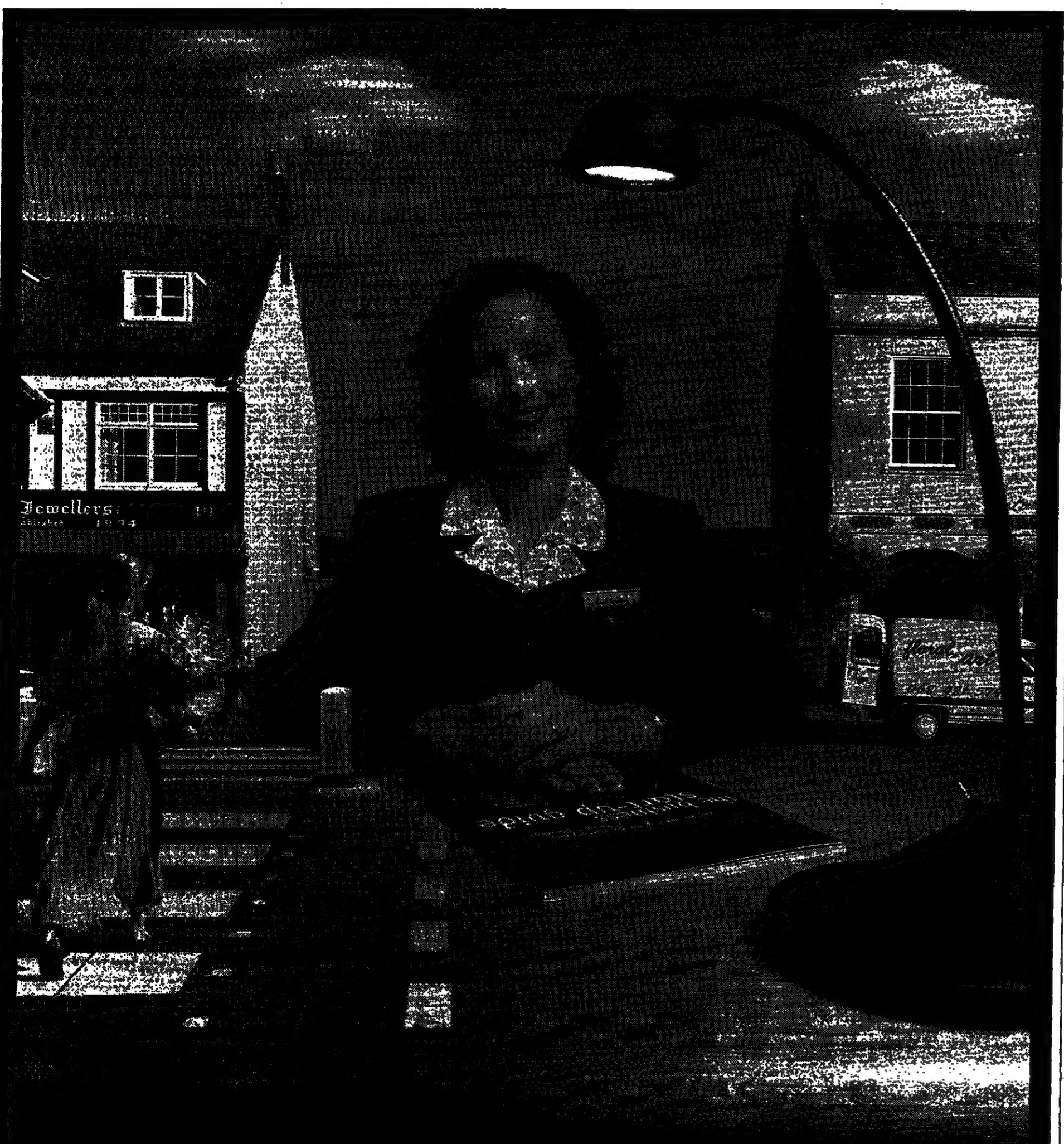
Eventually, the popular mood turned against Savonarola's moral mission and in 1498 he was arrested, tortured, hanged and burnt. The preacher's ashes were thrown into the River Arno.

Father Verde said Savonarola had been killed because the same people who had at first welcomed his crusade and his "bonfires of the vanities" eventually found his ceaseless harping on their vices intolerable. He had found — as Signor Di Pietro and Professor Prodi were finding — that a change in the moral climate could be sustained only "if the structure of power is also changed".

Leading article, page 15



Savonarola: scourge of the Medici and Borgias



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Battles put Natal elections at risk

FROM INIGO GILMORE
IN JOHANNESBURG

EMERGENCY talks were held at the weekend by President Mandela after a gun battle between policemen and Zulu marchers in Durban threatened to disrupt plans for local government elections in South Africa's KwaZulu/Natal province this month.

Three policemen and 20 other people were injured on Saturday when the police fought running gun battles with marchers among 7,000 Zulus who descended on the city to protest against the ban on carrying traditional weapons in public.

Soon after, a memorandum was handed in at the city hall, gunfire broke out from the crowd, sending people running for cover. Police officers chased demonstrators carrying automatic weapons and searched for a sniper in an arcade. Hundreds of shoppers fled in panic and shopkeepers barricaded their doors.

President Mandela was reported to be extremely concerned about the incident on the eve of today's "super Cabinet" meeting of ministers, deputy ministers and party leaders to decide whether local elections should go ahead in May 29. The South African leader summoned senior security officials to talks on Saturday evening, hours after armoured troop carriers rolled into a barricaded Durban city centre.

The ANC in KwaZulu/Natal argues that free and fair elections are not possible because of endemic violence creating "no-go" areas for its candidates and a defective electoral register. Although nobody disputes that its arguments have substance, Inkatha, the former ruling National Party and the Democratic Party, as well as most of the task force appointed by Mr Mandela to investigate the holding of elections, all want the poll to go ahead.

Thousands flee by ship as Monrovia set ablaze

FROM REUTERS IN MONROVIA

THE centre of the Liberian capital was ablaze yesterday after ethnic Krahn fighters pushed out of their barracks to hit back at Charles Taylor's forces.

Witnesses said the Krahn caught and killed five of General Taylor's fighters at the top of the main Benson Street thoroughfare, shooting some through the head, cutting the throats of others. Four bodies lay in a courtyard, while one was in the gutter outside with the ears cut off.

The Krahn pushed up to the Mamba Point district, reaching the Graystone compound, five minutes' walk from the US Embassy, where US Marines fired on fighters on Tuesday.

One squad of about 30 Krahn fighters — most in flak jackets, some in women's wigs — were accompanied by a small boy naked except for an assault rifle.

West African peacekeepers stopped them advancing up the hill towards the ruined Masonic Temple, telling them they were getting too close to the US Embassy.

The fighters finally withdrew, torching buildings as they went, and it was not clear who was in control of the city.

The fighting had raged as Roosevelt Johnson, the Krahn warlord who is at the centre of renewed violence, and official Liberian delegates arrived in Ghana for emergency peace talks.

The United States backs the two-day mini-summit of the Economic Community of West African States (Ecowas) which opens tomorrow in the Ghanaian capital of Accra, where General Sani Abacha, the Nigerian leader, will be a key player.

The latest battles followed a lull during which Monrovia's war-weary residents hurried to fetch water. On Saturday General Taylor's forces launched an assault on the Barclay Training Centre barracks where a number of Krahn fighters were holed up. A rusting Nigerian freighter

cramped with 2,000 Liberians fleeing fighting in the capital meanwhile sailed from Monrovia for Ghana yesterday. Hundreds of people who said they had paid for tickets were unable to board and were left on the quay.

Passengers crammed on every available surface sang the national hymn as a tug pulled the boat out of harbour. A tarpaulin rigged up on deck offered some shade, but most people were standing in the blazing tropical sun, with no room to sit.

The voyage to Accra was expected to take at least four days and passengers had only the food and water they could carry with them.

Thousands of people have spent several days at the port trying to find boats to take them out. Nigerian peacekeepers guarding the port made no attempt to intervene in the chaos.

Augustin Dalieh, a diver, said he had inspected the ship in November and found the cooling system was not working properly and a hole in the hull was mended only with emergency putty.

"It's risky, but we might as well take the risk. There is a chance of survival," said Eugene Fahungon, who was trying to evacuate members of a church group called African Christian Fellowship International.

Negotiators said at the weekend that they had persuaded General Taylor to agree to a ceasefire following Mr Johnson's departure for the Accra peace talks.

But General Taylor, who launched the civil war from Ivory Coast in 1989, promptly denied all knowledge of any truce and said he would not attend the talks, despite pressure from the United States.

□ **Buboro, Burundi:** The Burundi army killed more than 200 Hutus, mostly women and children, in a military operation in central Burundi late last month, humanitarian sources in the area claimed yesterday. (Reuters)



A Mer fisherman with his catch taken from seas off the tiny island in the Torres Strait which the islanders are claiming as their own

Australian islanders reclaim sea rights

FROM DAVID BENTLEY ON MER IN THE TORRES STRAIT

INHABITANTS of Mer, whose successful land claim spawned an avalanche of native title actions, have now set their sights on the waters which surround their tiny palm fringed island off northern Australia.

The claim has the potential to reshape the Australian coastline, particularly in the sparsely populated north where traditional hunting grounds impinge on the Great Barrier Reef, a prime tourist attraction.

Home to high priests and sorcerers of the powerful Malo-Bomai cult, Mer has long been troublesome for white intruders. The Royal Navy captain who sighted it in 1791, renaming it Murray Island, lost his ship, HMS Pandora, on the coral shortly afterwards.

Commercial fishermen seeking coral trout in the reefs around Mer are chased away by island warriors in aluminium dinghies. "Our ancestors were not afraid to

fight guns with bows and arrows," Ron Day, a sea-rights campaigner, said when reminded that fishing boat skippers carry guns.

Business logic underpins the aggressive attitude. Most islanders have seen the ravages of over-fishing in other parts of the Torres Strait. They hope to conserve their marine resources in support of a commercial fishing venture begun three years ago, financed by the islanders and seen as their best hope for self-sufficiency.

Peter Gebhardt, a Melbourne barrister engaged to prepare the island's sea claim for the Native Titles Tribunal, points to ancient fish traps on the tidal flats, first noted by the explorer Matthew Flinders in 1802, and the complex system of ownership of reefs and sand banks among the island's eight clans.

"This sea belonged to our grandfathers and their grandfathers in the before-time," James Bon, another sea-rights

activist, said. "We protect it. We look after it."

Ownership of the seas, even presumed ownership, has given Murray islanders a vested interest in protecting their marine garden. News that neighbouring Papua New Guineans have been illegally netting dugong on a nearby

reef, once a matter of indifference, now elicits an angry response.

There is outrage, too, that Indonesians have established soup canning factories along the green turtles' migratory route, particularly in the light of the islanders' decision to restrict turtle and dugong

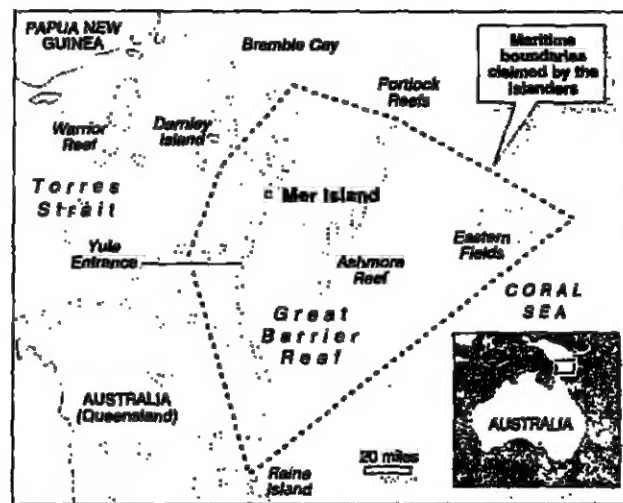
slaughter to ceremonial occasions.

"Our people are coming back to fishing, and the more they come back in, the more fishing grounds we need," Mr Bon said. "We want to live like we did before."

Victimised by marauding adventurers for decades, the islanders welcomed the protection of the London Missionary Society in 1872. Early converts included Aet Passi, a priest of the Malo cult who, having been taught by the missionaries to read and write, used his new skill to record ancient stories.

The hereditary line continues with the Rev Dave Passi, Mer's Anglican priest, whose expanded vision of Christianity embraces precepts of the Malo-Bomai cult.

Asked about sea rights, Mr Passi said: "For an islander like myself, it's part of my heritage. The water, the cosmos, the reefs... we have names for all our reefs and sand banks."



Tasmania gunman moved to jail

FROM ROGER MAYNARD IN SYDNEY



Bryant: target of death threats

MARTIN BRYANT, accused of last week's mass murder of 35 people in Tasmania, was transferred from hospital to a top security jail yesterday.

Bryant, 28, is being held in an isolated intensive care unit within Hobart's Risdon prison. He will be under 24-hour video surveillance to guard him from the threat of attack by other inmates.

Bryant, who is suffering from burns to his back, left the Royal Hobart Hospital in an ambulance escorted by police vehicles. His departure came after mounting concern among those patients who survived the slaughter.

Hospital sources said some of the casualties were "considerably traumatised" by their close proximity to him. Employees were also worried by the number of threatening telephone calls made to the hospital. Bomb hoaxes have forced the evacuation of staff and some

patients on several occasions. A police spokesman said: "It is hoped that hospital staff can now begin the task of concentrating on their normal duties and caring for the injured without the distraction of threatening phone calls."

Yesterday, church bells tolled across Tasmania as several hundred people turned up at Port Arthur to mourn those who perished at the killer's hands. But as Australia's sorrow turns to anger, the question of how last weekend's massacre was allowed to happen is paramount. There is growing evidence that Bryant slipped through the social services net and twice evaded police investigation.

He was once accused of shoplifting in the Broad Arrow Café where 20 people were killed. He was later banned from travelling by bus to Port Arthur: one of last Sunday's victims was a coach driver.

West Africa oil dispute worsens

Nairobi: Nigeria and neighbouring Cameroon looked set yesterday for a military clash in a dispute over ownership of the oil-rich Bakassi peninsula (Sam Kiley writes).

The border dispute has lasted for decades. Analysis said any clash would divert domestic opinion away from the failing governments in both countries.

Because a French firm is exploring oil reserves on the peninsula the dispute also threatens to involve France, which currently has a defence agreement with Cameroon.

Anti-smoking lobby turns its fire on the great outdoors

FROM JAMES BONE IN NEW YORK

CHASED from their offices, restaurants and cinemas by ever stricter smoking bans, America's smokers now are being pursued onto the pavement and into the local park.

The campaign against passive smoking, which the Government blames for 3,000 cases of lung cancer each year, is spreading to the Great Outdoors. Towns and cities have begun to institute no-smoking rules in open-air sporting arenas, beaches, playgrounds and even parks.

The industry-financed Tobacco Institute denounces the trend as "tobacco apartheid"

and compares it to Prohibition. The National Smokers' Alliance has taken out newspaper advertisements condemning anti-smoking activists as "lifestyle police".

While smoking has been banned in many large state parks for years because of the danger of forest fires, the new laws are driven simply by citizens' desire for fresh air.

The movement began when a toddler in a small town of Sharon, Massachusetts, picked up a cigarette butt at the local beach and tried to eat it. Her mother launched a successful crusade to get

smoking banned in any municipal recreational area.

Several towns in New Jersey have followed suit. The most sweeping ban is in the health-conscious cities of Davis and Palo Alto, California, where laws make it illegal to stop and smoke in the centre of either city, although an exception allows people to smoke as long as they keep walking.

Figures indicate that about 26 per cent of Americans now smoke, compared with 40 per cent in 1964. According to one opinion poll, about two-thirds of Americans support a ban on outdoor smoking.

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Indians make stylish start to tour

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Leicester left to reflect on final failure

TIMES SPORT

MONDAY MAY 6 1996

CHAMPIONSHIP GOES TO OLD TRAFFORD FOR THE THIRD TIME IN FOUR YEARS



May begins to celebrate as his header beats Walsh, the Middlesbrough goalkeeper, and the despairing Branco to give Manchester United the lead at the Riverside Stadium. Photograph: Rui Viera

United seal their title deeds

Middlesbrough 0
Manchester United 3

By ROB HUGHES
FOOTBALL CORRESPONDENT

MANCHESTER United won their third FA Carling Premiership trophy in four seasons with such accomplished ease yesterday that, long before half-time, their supporters were up on their feet, dancing the conga in front of their designated seats.

Ryan Giggs, including the first two goals with his magician's ability to bend corner kicks and then finishing off the display with a virtuoso goal of his own, had fully justified the pre-match observation of Bryan Robson, who wrote in the programme: "In recent weeks Eric Cantona has deservedly won the plaudits with his match-winning goals. But I feel the real man of the moment has been Giggs, with a series of outstanding performances over the last ten games."

Some prophet, Robson. After all, he had spent 13 years as a Manchester United player. But, to show the shortcomings of his prophecy, he had also predicted: "I am confident my knowledge of all the lads will help me to plan their downfall."

He could not do that from the trainer's bench. Alex Ferguson, his former mentor, had poured so much knowledge into a United team that seems to get younger and younger, had instilled his own brand of fire and desire, so much so that, at the age of 54, he has become the eighth man to manage a team to three English league titles. Given his three championships with Aberdeen north of the border,

he more than deserved his share of the idolatry that came from the 2,700 Mancunians who were present. They were so vociferous that they drowned the noise from the Middlesbrough fanatics among the 29,921 crowd.

Ferguson, his club blazer damp with champagne, said afterwards: "What has delighted me has been the determination. We simply couldn't make any mistakes since December and winning 16 out of 17 games has been quite exceptional."

"When you look at our side, it's a bonus that so many of them are so young. Ryan Giggs is just 22 and he has three championship medals. It's not just about the young players, but they stayed in there the whole time, they've always been available to me, which says a lot for them."

He was told that Kevin Keegan, the Newcastle United manager, had, in contrast to his emotional outburst last Monday, been complimentary about the team which had finished four points clear at

the top of the Premiership. Ferguson agreed that the crucial game had been Manchester United's win at home against Newcastle just before Christmas, and he added: "I feel for Newcastle, especially for their unique supporters. I think they have had a fantastic season and when we went up there, there was no bitterness, no chanting at us... a unique support. You have to feel sad for such passionate people."

As it turned out, United did not need to win, for Newcastle could only draw 1-1 with Tottenham Hotspur. In any case, however, Middlesbrough threatened only for a moment or two. Juninho danced, sometimes indulgently and sometimes with a skill so sharp and so quick that Irwin and Pallister were booked for their efforts to subdue him.

With barely a minute of the match gone, Juninho fell but somehow managed to scoop the ball up into the goalmouth, where Florio should at least have headed on target, but

miscued from six yards. Barnby was later to be equally prodigate when again Juninho had opened United's defence. But that was the token offering of the home team. Middlesbrough never looked likely to be only the second team in 22 league and cup games to defeat Ferguson's side.

In the thirteenth minute, United struck. Giggs had taken a corner from the right, arching the ball knowingly towards the far post, where David May, after such a long struggle to become a recognised United defender, rose unimpeded to head the ball. It cleared the goaline. Branco made an attempt to force it away, but managed only to strike the underside of the bar and the ball came down again, clearly over the line. It had been a year almost to the day that May had last scored a goal.

The other two scorers are more familiar masters of the art. Andy Cole had come off the substitutes' bench to replace Scholes in the 52nd

minute. He scored with his first touch, again after a corner from Giggs, and this time Cole, with all the instincts of a predator, with all the touch and finesse that had escaped him of late, calmly hooked the ball gently over his shoulder from a position almost beneath the crossbar. The awareness that blessed him then was gone when, twice, Giggs outpaced Cos and offered inviting centres, the first of which Cole failed to reach; the second he mis-controlled.

But by now the revelry was high. Instead of directing their songs and their voices at the players who were winning the title for them once again, the United songsters chorused ecstatically, but loudly, their joy that Manchester's divide was becoming wider: they were singing in the knowledge that Manchester City were sinking out of the Premiership.

Those United supporters, some of whom had allegedly paid over £200 for a ticket, also had mocking tunes for

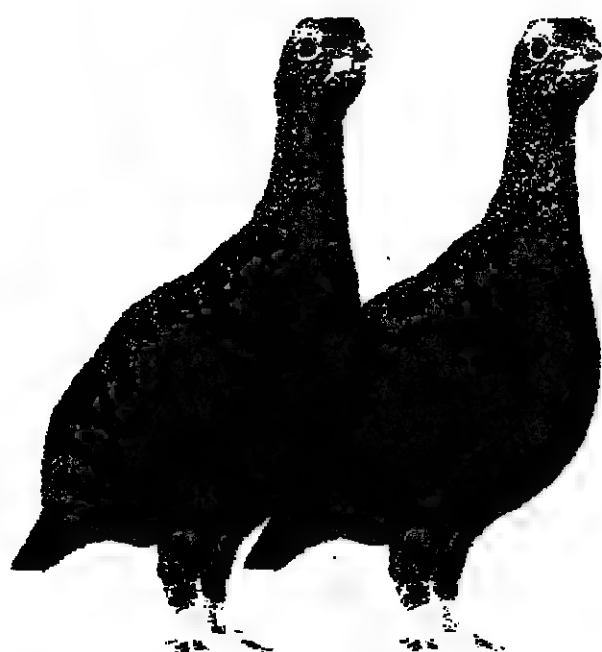
Keegan, but at least, and at last, they came up with an air for the day: "We're gonna lay down our weary head, down by the riverside."

And the Riverside Stadium was finally to see a goal that brought a standing ovation from the whole crowd. Giggs was 35 yards out when he followed his flight of fantasy. He skipped past one tackle and advanced with the ball towards the edge of the box. Then, as if shooting a sitting duck, he arrogantly used the outside of his left foot to swerve the ball teasingly out of the reach of Gary Walsh, a goalkeeper he had grown up with at The Cliff, the United training ground.

Cantona, the sorcerer among the apprentices, had been quiet, no doubt conserving something for the FA Cup Final next Saturday. The winning of that, in conjunction with the championship, would put Ferguson even further up the table of great British managers. It would also, apparently, lead to the sharing out of a bonus pool of £2 million, or £100,000 per man and boy in the United squad.

United were welcomed to the stadium by a band of pipers, but Ferguson hardly needed those strains, or the lifting of the clouds that brought bright sunlight to the crowning glory. This will not be the last hurrah of his team, no matter what resistance Liverpool put up at Wembley six days from now.

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THE UPS AND DOWNS OF THE 1995/6 SEASON

FA Carling Premiership	Endsleigh Division One	Division Two	Division Three
Champions Manchester United	Champions Sunderland	Champions Swindon Town	Champions Preston North End
Also promoted Newcastle United	Also promoted Derby County	Also promoted Oxford United	Also promoted Gillingham
Relegated Barnsley Birmingham City Bolton Wanderers	Play-off semi-finals Two legs: May 12 & 13 Charlton Athletic v Crystal Palace Leicester City v Stoke City Final: Wednesday May 27 Relegated Millwall Watford Luton Town	Play-off semi-finals Two legs: May 12 & 13 Bradford City v Blackpool Crewe Alexandra v Notts County Final: Wednesday May 23 Relegated York City or Carlisle United Swansea City Hull City Brighton and Hove Albion	Play-off semi-finals Two legs: May 12 & 13 Colchester United v Plymouth Argyle Hereford United v Darlington United Final: Wednesday May 23 Relegated Torquay United*

* (Stay up because Slavenburga Borough not eligible for promotion from Vauxhall Conference)

MIDDLESBROUGH (3-4-2-1): G Walsh — D Whyte, S Vickers, N Pearson — N Cox, J Potocki (sub: P Stamp, 56min), R Musco, Branco (sub: A Moore, 72) — N Barnby, Juninho — J A Florio.

MANCHESTER UNITED (4-4-2): P Scholes — D Irwin, D May, G Pallister, P Neville — D Beckham, R Keane, N Butt, R Giggs — P Scholes (sub: A Cole, 52), E Cantona.

Referee: P Dunne.

Voice that lent colour to whispering gallery

Whisper it, but Ted Lowe retires today. The combined ages of Stephen Hendry and Peter Ebdon barely total the number of years that Lowe has been involved with the world snooker championship. Or, as David Vine keeps insisting with irritating frequency, trying to make the whole thing sound more important than it is, the Embassy championship of the world. Whispering Ted. Hyperbolic David.

Lowe has reached his half-century, starting out as a world championship official but engaged in commentary for the past 43 years. Be it Hendry or Ebdon who takes the title today, Lowe has just one wish: "To commentate on the final frame with the winner making a maximum break of 147."

His going marks the end of the cosy corner of BBC snooker coverage. Rarely — and in marked contrast to John Virgo's penetrating opinions — does Lowe offer a criticism, mainly just describing what is evident. Sometimes even that has been beyond him. "For those watching in black and white, the blue is behind the yellow," David Coleman could have invented that one. And, only last week: "A capacity crowd here." Lowe said, as the camera focused on four empty seats.

Hardly a frame goes by at the Crucible without reference to a fluke, which is how Lowe dropped into the commentary pocket. Raymond Glendenning was the snooker commentator on those rare occasions in the early 1950s when one was required and



DAVID POWELL
TV ACTION REPLAY

Lowe would sit next to him "scribbling the scores to help things along". When Glendenning was struck by laryngitis, Lowe was the alternative.

"Those were the days when there were no commentary boxes and one sat in the audience with paying customers either side and the players a couple of feet in front of you," Lowe, 75, recalled. "Somebody tapped you on the shoulder to start talking and 'tapped you again to stop."

"There were no monitors. You did not know what picture

was going out. I was scared to death so I talked quietly so nobody who was sat next to me could hear. The following day they called me Whispering Ted and I have been Whispering Ted ever since."

There have been occasions when even a whisper has been too loud. "The audience is standing to relieve themselves," was one. "One of Stephen Hendry's greatest assets is his ability to score when he's playing," was another. And times when a one-liner paid off. "A little pale in the

face, but then his name is White." Lowe is the only commentator who has not been a player of note. "Players tend to commentate as though they are playing," he said. "My commentary is quite different."

More interesting Steve than Rocket Ronnie. It was Rocket Ronnie who reminded us, as the semi-finals began, that the *four pas* is not exclusive to television commentators or anchormen. Alan Hughes, the Master of Ceremonies, introducing O'Sullivan, told us that "this explosive young talent has had a tournament players' dream of". Just when did he dream of the rocket in his pocket, a £20,000 fine for assaulting a tournament press officer?

Virgo is never afraid to call a bad shot, to question the referee, or to judge a player's reaction to circumstances and, for this, we put up with "snooker's a funny game" and "at the end of the day, if you don't take your chances, you'll struggle". Vine, too, scores well on picking up questionable refereeing.

Lowe's style may be anachronistic in today's more aggressive and analytical approach to sport on television, but it played its part in progress. *Pot Black*, which he inaugurated for the BBC in 1969, was put on by the light-entertainment department.

"That brought about the popularity of the game," Lowe said, proudly. "It introduced sponsors and the sponsors started coming in." The game is grateful for that, so happy retirement, Ted. Hip, hip... shooosh.

Dodson earns chance to challenge for title

ADRIAN DODSON, the Islington light-middleweight, will get the chance to confirm the promise of his amateur boxing days when he meets the winner of the World Boxing Organisation (WBO) world championship bout between Bronco McCart and Winky Wright, who meet on May 17 (Srikumar Sen writes). Dodson had intended to challenge at the end of July, but after suffering a hand injury defending his WBO international title against John Bosco at Dagenham on Saturday, he may have to wait until the autumn for his opportunity.

In view of the fact that Dodson broke his hand in the third round, the stoppage of Bosco, a tough Ugandan and a third replacement, in the seventh round was an impressive one. Even though Dodson finished the bout with a right hand to the head, Bosco's strength had been drained by vicious left hand body punches.

Claymores controversy

AMERICAN FOOTBALL: The Scottish Claymores lost their unbeaten record in the World League of American Football in bizarre fashion when going down 15-14 to Rhein Fire in Düsseldorf on Saturday (Richard Wetherell writes). In the final two minutes, the Rhein Fire were seeking to run down the clock and the Claymores had to stop the home side gaining a first down. With 1min 40sec remaining, a third-down pass sailed incomplete, but the back judge fell over and threw a flag to signify an offence for "unsportsmanlike conduct". The official said that he had told the Claymores players and coaches to move back from the sideline several times and that he was tripped as he followed the play. That gave the Fire a first down and they played out time.

Lomas pursues medal

TABLE TENNIS: Lisa Lomas, right, winner of silver and bronze in the past ten years, took her challenge for a third European championship women's singles medal to the third round in Bratislava yesterday. The England No 1 won twice, first overwhelming the young, left-handed Dane, Janine Jensen, 21-13, 21-9 and then containing the attack of Eva Odorova, of Slovakia, 21-14, 21-10, 21-15.



Mechanics on song

POLO: The Mechanics, a team put together by the pop guitarist, Mike Rutherford, and named after his band, won the 12-handicap Tyro Cup, the first final of the season, at Ambersham, Sussex, yesterday with a 7-6 victory, over four chukkas, against Edelweiss, whose patron is the Swiss player, Pierre Mirabaud. Alan Kent was the main contributor to The Mechanics' success, ably supported by Rutherford's 15-year-old son, Tom.

MECHANICS: 1, T Rutherford (1); 2, A Wade (1); 3, A Kent (7); 4, M Rutherford (1); 5, Edelweiss: 1, D Holston (3); 2, J Hipwood (6); 3, E Mirabaud (6); 4, B. Bask, P Mirabaud (4).

Lancaster at the double

FENCING: Harry Lancaster led a strong Sussex House squad to clear victory in the British foil championships in Hendon over the weekend as the club took both individual and team gold. In the individual event, Lancaster narrowly defeated Donnie McKenzie, of Scotland, 15-12 in an exciting final. In the team event, Sussex House swept the board taking the top three places. The women's championship was won by Lucy Harris, of London, for the second time while, in the team event, Harris was instrumental in Salle Paul's victory over Woking.

Newton keeps jersey

CYCLING: Chris Newton, the Commonwealth Games silver medal-winner, starts today's final stage of the 336-mile Thwaites Grand Prix as overall leader, but sharing the same aggregate time of 9hr 24min 17sec with second-placed Joe Bayfield. The pair had started the sixth stage, a 30-mile town-centre race yesterday evening in Accrington, with Newton the leader by 4sec. Bayfield made up the deficit, but Newton kept his leader's yellow jersey by virtue of higher placings since the race started last Thursday.

League chases Davies

RUGBY: Jonathan Davies, right, is being lined up for a return to rugby league after only seven months back in the union game in Wales. Maurice Lindsay, the chief executive of the Super League, wants Davies to help establish a team in South Wales to take part in the League in next season. Davies has played only a handful of matches for Cardiff since his return to union in October.



Odds favour Davies

REAL TENNIS: The former world champion, Wayne Davies, of Australia, will start as the favourite for the BNB Resources British professional championship at Holbycot, Davies, the New York professional, is in outstanding form, but faces a tough challenge from the Harbour Club professional, Lachie Deuchar, the No 2 seed. Mike Gooding, who recently challenged for Robert Fahey's world title, losing narrowly to Davies in the final qualifier, leads the British challenge.

Ebdon makes his opening gambit

By PHIL YATES

PETER EBDON marked his debut in the final of the Embassy world snooker championship by establishing a surprise 4-3 lead over Stephen Hendry, the title-holder, after the first session of four in their marathon best-of-35-frame contest for a record £200,000 first prize.

In five previous unbeaten appearances in a final at the Crucible Theatre, Hendry has never begun so ineffectively. During the opening six frames, his highest break was a modest 38 and Ebdon will view the afternoon's proceedings as an opportunity wasted to build a more sizeable advantage.

Hendry showed he was not entirely focused in the first frame. Although trailing by 40 points, he had the chance to fashion a clearance and thereby deliver a telling early blow. Instead, he missed a simple yellow and Ebdon constructed a 79 break. Ebdon took on and missed a double on the penultimate red in the second frame. Hendry cleared to pink with 36, but even that failed to light the touch-paper.

A 59 break gave Ebdon the third frame and, by potting the kind of key ball that was such a feature of his epic 16-14 semi-final success against

Ronnie O'Sullivan on Saturday, Ebdon moved 3-1 ahead. With the fourth frame hanging in the balance, Ebdon sank the fourteenth red to a distant baulk pocket to initiate a clearance to blue. Hendry, far from satisfied with his form after recording a seemingly comfortable 16-7 semi-final win over Nigel Bond, looked suitably doleful.

The following two frames were shared — Hendry winning a scrappy fifth, Ebdon securing a low-scoring six — before Hendry finally offered a glimpse of his usual fluency by accounting for the seventh with a run of 83.

There was a time when Ebdon was in danger of permeating Hendry's skin. However much he might try to play it down, there is a burning rivalry between the two which, temporarily at least, seemed to affect Hendry's performance level whenever they met.

Ebdon gave an unprecedented display of triumphalism when beating Hendry 5-4 in the quarter-finals of last year's Benson and Hedges Masters from two frames down with three to play and added further spice to their future encounters by edging him 9-8 for the Irish Masters

title a few weeks later after trailing 8-6.

This season, though, Hendry has registered four consecutive victories over Ebdon, including a 10-3 success in the final of the United Kingdom championship.

The first seeds of the Hendry v Ebdon rivalry were sown in 1992 when Ebdon advised Hendry to take his golf clubs to the Dubai Classic because he would have a few days to kill. Hendry duly beat Ebdon 5-2 in the first round but the die had been cast.

At the Masters last February, when he still required the blue to complete victory, Ebdon paraded around the table arms aloft, milking the moment, an incident that undoubtedly fuels Hendry's determination every time the pair cross cues.

While Hendry and Ebdon play out the closing act of the championships, there are many who are disappointed to have seen the elimination of O'Sullivan. Controversial he may be, but it is his on-table brilliance and off-table indiscretions for which this year's event will be remembered.

RESULTS: Semi-finals: Sunday, 3 Hendry (Scot) bt N Bond (Eng) 16-7; P Ebdon (Eng) bt R O'Sullivan (Eng) 16-14. Final: Ebdon leads Hendry 4-3. Frame scores: (Ebdon first) 121-2; 42-75; 78-34; 61-34; 61-56; 67-14; 4-100



Todd rides Bertie Blunt clear yesterday to win Badminton for the third time

Badminton reunion delivers sweet triumph for Todd

By JENNY MACARTHUR

MARK TODD, the dual Olympic champion from New Zealand, gained the sweetest of victories yesterday when he and Bertie Blunt, the horse that was taken away from him last year after a falling out with his sponsors, won the Mitsubishi Motors Badminton Horse Trials after a faultless showjumping performance.

The win, Todd's third, came after a dramatic final showjumping phase in which the British favourites, Ian Stark and Stanwick Ghost, the overnight leaders after an outstanding cross-country performance, dropped to sixth place when they incurred ten faults at the last two fences.

Vaughn Jefferts, the world champion from New Zealand, moved up to second place on the peerless Bounce when David O'Connor, of the United States, had one error on the Irish-bred Custom Made. Leslie Law, of Great Britain, underlined his claims for a place on the Olympic team when he and Nicola Coe's new Flavour, clear inside the time on Saturday, completed another faultless round yesterday to take fourth place.

Todd, who won the Saumur three-day event in France last

week on his Olympic ride, Kayem, always knew that Bertie Blunt, a 12-year-old by Sunnyboy, was capable of winning a significant event, but fate dictated otherwise at the beginning of their partnership.

At Burghley in 1994, they were eliminated when Todd missed out a flag on phase C.

DETAILS

FINAL POSITIONS: 1, Bertie Blunt (M Todd, NZ) 42.0 penalty points; 2, Bounce (V Jefferts, NZ) 43.0; 3, Custom Made (D O'Connor, US) 45.0; 4, New Flavour (L Law, GB) 46.45; 5, Chesterfield (B Tate, NZ) 49.2; 6, Stanwick Ghost (I Stark, GB) 50.60.

WORLD RANKINGS: 1, Todd 20pts, 2, A Nicholson (NZ) 180; 3, O'Connor 134.

At Badminton last year, where Todd was clear across country — riding most of it with one stirrup — Bertie Blunt failed the final horse inspection. The horse was then removed from Todd's yard when he fell out with his sponsors. Bond International and spent much of last year in the field.

However, this March, the horse's owners, Robert and Melita Howell, asked a delighted Todd if he would have him back. "I think the

rest has done him no harm," Todd, who picked up £24,000 for the win, said.

Stark's Stanwick Ghost, owned by Lady Hartington, has also benefited from his enforced 14 months' absence recovering from a tendon injury. Although showjumping is his weakest phase, he was jumping beautifully yesterday until fence 11, The Gate, where he missed his stride. "It was disappointing to lose it like that," Stark said, "but I was thrilled at the way he was jumping."

The best of the 11 Olympic long-listed hopefuls competing was Lucy Jennings, on Diamond Pedlar, in twentieth place. Karen Dixon's Too Smart ran out at the Olympic Staircase and incurred 15 showjumping penalties.

Gary Parsonage's Magic Rouge and Katie Parker's Cornish Faer both failed the final horse inspection. Leslie Law's Capitano was held over and not represented. Nigel Taylor's The Frenchman "tied up" before the cross country and Mary King's Olympic reserve horse, Star Appeal, fell at the first fence, badly bruising her neck, which prevented her from riding King William yesterday.

Leeds left impoverished by capital gains

Leeds 20
London Broncos 27

By CHRISTOPHER IRVINE

LEADS in rugby league are, these days, like fool's gold. Blink and they can disappear. Eighteen points down after half an hour yesterday and reduced to 12 players for the last quarter, London Broncos made a mockery of both numerical discrepancies to record their first win at Huddersley.

It was a triumph of faith in the face of Terry Matterson's dismissal. London's recovery, having taken them to within six points of their opponents, might have halted with the captain's reckless high tackle

on Fozzard. Instead, Leeds shrunk miserably from the challenge.

As London pulled away with the second of Tollett's runaway tries, Leeds supporters vacated their seats in droves, a telling comment on the nature of a fifth defeat in six matches. London's fourth victory is a more auspicious start to the Stone's Super League than they could possibly have envisaged.

For Tony Currie, the London coach, who played for Leeds in the 1980s, it was an especially sweet return. "Even when down, we never gave up," he said. "Everyone put in that extra five per cent."

Yesterday was the start of a month on the road for the Broncos, but trips to St Hel-

ens, Castleford and Warrington will be viewed with less trepidation after the way Leeds' scalp was added to those of Halifax, Paris Saint-Germain and Workington.

Leeds obviously felt the job was done as Cummins sup-

Results and tables 29

ported Hassan for the opening try and Mercer capitalised on Holroyd's chip. Between these, Iro scored the sort of outstanding try that can break a team's resolve. As Bobbie Goulding showed for St Helens at Wembley last week, the towering kick on the last tackle can still cause havoc in the summer era. Iro, however,

caught Matterson's steeping effort into the Leeds in-goal area, swivelled and set off on a run to the Broncos' line that Roskell narrowly failed to stop.

At this stage, London had lost Cochrane, who is expected to miss the rest of the season with a shoulder injury, and had McRae in the sin-bin, but they were undaunted. Matterson again kicked high. Anthony Gibbons seemed to have it covered, but, in a now legal one-on-one challenge, Gill snatched the ball and grabbed London's first try.

All Leeds offered in the second period was Holroyd's fourth penalty. Gill's second try and Tollett's first brought London to the point of Matterson's moment of mad-

ness. However, Leeds showed nothing. Dynevor converted the next try by Rea, added a goal and Tollett's second touchdown was followed by the final nail of a dropped goal by McRae.

SCORES: Leeds: Three Cummins, Iro, Mercer, Goulding (4); London: Tries Gill (2), Tollett (2), Rea, Goals: Dynevor (2). Matterson Dropped goal; McRae LEADS: 6 Gibbons, 1 Follen, 1 Iro, F Cummins, P Hassan, D Gibbons, G Holroyd, N Harrison, M Vassilakopoulos, H Howard, S Mercer, A Mowbray, M Foden, Subs used: B McDermott, C Hall, N Fozzard.

LONDON BRONCOS: D McRae, J Harris, L Lopus, E Cochrane, S Roskell, T Tollett, A Langer, D Shaw, T Rea, T Mestrov, P Gill, J Byrnes, T Matterson, Subs used: R Baxendale, L Dynevor, D Pitt, Referee: R Smith.

□ A hat-trick of tries by Paul Newlove enabled St Helens to follow their Silk Cut Challenge Cup win last week with a 66-18 defeat of Oldham Bears at Knowsley Road yesterday.

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Curtain comes down on Ball's final passion play

David Maddock sees Manchester City suffer the drop after failing to capitalise on a lacklustre Liverpool performance

A STIRRING late revival by Manchester City could not conceal the harsh truth that they were simply not good enough to save themselves. Even with the assistance of a disgracefully indifferent Liverpool, they were one goal short of an astonishing comeback that would have preserved their place in the FA Carling Premiership.

If there was a cup for cock-ups, Malcolm Allison, the former City manager, once said, then City would win it. Never was that better illustrated than here on this remarkable day when they performed so badly for 60 minutes that they could have been buried under a landslide, had the visiting side not, apparently, taken pity on them.

As it was, they were two goals down and getting out the maps for Grimsby. Then, in typical City fashion, they founded all the odds to draw level and give themselves 12 minutes to find the winner, and salvation.

It was not to be. Kavelasvili, the Georgian substitute, came closest when he shaved a post in injury time. The reality though, was that the Manchester club did not deserve to escape the drop.

"It was not to be," Alan Ball, their manager, said. "We created many chances and could have done it, but I'm a realist and, when it is not to be, you have to accept it. It was the biggest disappointment of my career. I feel sorry for the fans because we have given them another kick in the teeth."

He was right. Quite how they could have displayed such a lack of passion, commitment even, for two-thirds of the most important game that they have played this season is unfathomable. To

do it against a side that was so clearly not interested in winning was even more appalling.

The rousing finale may have hidden a number of ills, but it should not be allowed to for long. City, under Ball, have struggled all season and never more have they struggled than in a quite shocking first half here. Liverpool strolled around with barely a worry, and no obvious intent. Never can Robbie Fowler have passed the ball inside the penalty area so much; not even in a testimonial. It is against this backdrop that City's performance has to be judged, not their, admittedly spirited, response when it was just about too late.

Ball must take much of the blame. He has always held a passion for the game, and maintained that he is able to transmit it to his players. Not here. He also maintained

the naive tactical approach that has done so much to put City in this position.

Playing Quinn at centre forward without employing wingers to give him the ball surely ranks as the most significant blunder of an error-filled season. It is run close, though, by his use of Clough, who cannot have passed to the Liverpool team as much in his days at Anfield as he did here.

He was a passenger, asked to sit deep in midfield, and was eventually booted by the City supporters, who were further bemused when Ball finally brought on a winger, Phillips, and took Quinn off.

It meant that only Lomas offered any real opposition in the middle of the park, so it was no surprise when Liverpool found themselves two goals up. The first came after six minutes, McManaman

galloping free down the left into acres of free space and providing a cross that Lomas sliced into his own net.

The second was also a product of appalling defending. Liverpool advanced without challenge and McManaman fed Rush to allow the veteran striker a goal in his

last league game for Liverpool. City had not had the best of luck, Stephen Lodge, the referee, denying a blatant penalty when he ruled that Summerbee had been fouled outside the box, and they did spurn many chances.

Liverpool appeared to stop playing completely in the second half. It was then that City came into the game, and they were given some encouragement when Lodge made up for his earlier error by awarding a penalty to Kinkladze when, at best, he was merely obstructed by Ruddick.

Rösler converted in the seventeenth minute, and Symons created a stomach-churning finish for the City supporters when he turned well in the box to dispatch a good cross from Phillips on 78 minutes. Typical City that, coming back when even their own supporters had given up

on them; but sadly far more typical of City to offer hope at even that late stage without quite managing to deliver it.

Ball, though, remained defiant in that slightly embarrassing way of his. "It could be for the best, it is in the nature of the chairman and myself to come back strongly," he said. It should not have been necessary.

MANCHESTER CITY (3-4-1-2): E Innes — 1. Bighwell, K. Symons, N. Carr — N. Summerbee, N. Clough (sub: M. Kavelasvili, 67min), S. Lomas, M. Brown — G. Kinkladze — U. Rösler, N. Carr (sub: M. Phillips, 50).

LIVERPOOL (3-5-2): D. James — J. McAtee, M. Wright, H. Ruddick — P. Babb, R. Jones — S. McManaman, M. Thomas, J. Fookes (sub: M. Kennedy, 46), — 1. Rush, R. Fowler.

Referee: S. Lodge.



Falling on hard times: Quinn, the City forward, takes a tumble as his side slides towards relegation at Maine Road yesterday. Photograph: Paul McFegan

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Millwall status lowered by feeble end result

Ipswich Town 0
Millwall 0

By Nick Spence

FOOTBALL is supposed to be about winners and losers, but the game at Portman Road yesterday was only about losers. This result and others elsewhere meant that both teams were disconsolate at the end: Ipswich Town failed to reach the Endleigh Insurance League first division play-offs, while Millwall's relegation gives the good people of Gillingham, Preston and Bury a little something extra to look forward to next season.

At least Ipswich will be spared any chance of a potentially embarrassing immediate return to the FA Carling Premiership. It took the England job to give their former manager, Bobby Robson, grey hair, but the present incumbent, George Burley, is already well on the way without anything to make it worse.

The first half provided little evidence that either team's immediate ambitions — going up or staying up — deserved to be fulfilled. The public address played *The Flintstones* theme a few minutes before kick-off and the first half was

suitably neolithic, despite the trendy-looking formations. With both sides needing to win, the fear of conceding a goal dominated. Chances were rare, the best falling to Marshall, who volleyed over the bar, then into Keller's midriff, and Milton, who forced Keller to a good save.

The level of sound and fury rose after half-time, but the news from other grounds inspired Ipswich rather than Millwall, whose cause was now more urgent. After 57 minutes, Connor headed away from the jaws of the goal after the Ipswich substitute, Scowcroft, had beaten everyone to a rebound off the goalkeeper.



Sedgley chances

Sixteen minutes from the end, with all ears glued to radios, Scowcroft again headed goalwards, but this time relief for Keller was provided by a post. There were further goal-line heroics from Doyle, but Millwall seemed unable to produce many attacks. When they did, Neil went for glory when a pass to Malkin might have provided a goal.

In the last quarter of an hour, Sedgley, Marshall and Milton had chances for the home team, but it was all bare nerve-ends and neither team did enough to win.

"At the end of last season," Burley said, "everyone was pessimistic, but we've played attacking football and scored a lot of goals. We are disappointed, but no complaints. We knew it was in our hands."

As the news of Portsmouth's win at Huddersfield Town came in, there was the predictable rain of missiles from the Millwall seats and Ipswich supporters caught in the middle had to be led to safety.

IPSWICH TOWN (3-5-2): R. Wright — J. Wark (sub: A. Vaughan, 64min), G. Morris, S. Sedgley, D. Thompson — M. Stoddard, S. Hallett, G. Williams, P. Mason (sub: J. Scowcroft, 28), M. Tanczos — A. Marshall, I. Marshall.

MILLWALL (3-5-1-1): K. Keller — J. Connor, K. Stevens, B. Thatcher — D. Savage (sub: L. Neil, 70), M. Doyle, R. Newman, B. Bowry, J. San Bern, M. Vell (sub: A. White, 53) — C. Malkin.

Referee: K. Lynch.

Gillingham remain mean to the last after securing record

Gillingham 1
Scarborough 0

By Keith Pike

THE hangover had been Paul Scally's, but the real headache belonged to Tony Pulis. The Gillingham manager was faced with every employee's nightmare: his boss stood expectantly on the 18th green, needing a 12-inch putt. Self-preservation told Pulis to concede; professionalism dictated otherwise.

Like Gillingham's defence all season, Pulis was giving nothing away. Scally's money may have saved the club ten months ago, funded Pulis's appointment and then transformed the team, but the chairman's desire for a place on the substitutes' bench and a ten-minute run-out on Saturday was denied him. Sentiment and sport mix all too rarely these days, even in the third division of the

Endleigh Insurance League. Scally, local hero and would-be player, was consigned to the directors' box. His tiddler had slipped past the hole.

Scally, an expensive suit ruined when Gillingham's promotion was confirmed at Fulham seven days earlier — "I woke up in a strange hotel near Slough with no money, no car and knowing nobody," he said. "I didn't even know why I was there" — accepted the decision with equanimity and no little humour. Tracksuited (just in case), he contented himself with a lap of honour with son Max, six, on his shoulders.

It was a shame that Gillingham's supporters and captain could not see much as much good grace. The full house with plenty to celebrate chose to spend an inordinate amount of time insulting Scarborough, while Dave Martin, having twice tried to dismember opponents with wild tackles, was taken off

before he was sent off. His yellow card was Gillingham's 111th of a season in which they have also had eight players sent off.

Scarborough, dominating the second half, revealed Gillingham for what they are: an attritional, unattractive team. That said, Scarborough rarely threatened to cancel out Leo Fortune-West's 22nd-minute header. Jim Stannard's 29th clean sheet ensured Gillingham's entry into history as the meanest defence over a 46-match programme, with just 20 goals conceded. They are welcome to the record. They have not endeared themselves to the third division and, with luck, will find found out in the second.

GILLINGHAM (4-4-2): J. Stannard — G. Micklewhite, A. Butler (sub: G. Thomas, 64min), M. Harris, W. Marshall — D. Blazey, S. Ruffell, D. Martin (sub: K. Batty, 67), D. Putnam — J. Gayle (sub: S. Butler, 67), I. Fortune-West.

SCARBOROUGH (1-4-4-1): I. Horsede — S. Hicks — D. Knowles, J. Rodwell, C. Boardman (sub: A. Torner, 46), R. Lucas — J. Sanderson, M. Wells, S. Charles, K. Magan — D. Page.

Referee: J. Leach.

Portsmouth live to tell tall tale of narrow escape

Huddersfield Town 0
Portsmouth 1

By Mark Hodgkinson

THE computers at Huddersfield's high-tech McAlpine Stadium provide all manner of statistical information. By half-time, for example, it was relayed that precisely 2,483 Portsmouth supporters had packed into the South Stand behind the goal.

Over the summer, urban legends on the south coast will have it that the computer considerably under-counted as scores of Pompey followers claim "I was there". They might have seen Portsmouth ensure their survival in the Endleigh Insurance League first division, but few will report that they had seen a football match, not by its proper definition anyway.

Matters were too tense, too desperate, for little aside from a frantic mêlée where kicking the ball hard and far counted as a positive play. Portsmouth made the urgency of the situation clear immediately, winning a corner after just 24 seconds. Like a cloud of smoke, they choked play, pushing Huddersfield ever deeper. The home side, bewildered and caught unexpectedly

in someone else's dogfight, were hardly in the mood. Their own passing game was spoiled by the sheer zest of Portsmouth's determination.

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populated the midfield and ran every ball to ground, driven on by the inspirational Martin Allen.

The first pass of note took more than half an hour to arrive when Carter placed the ball across the field into the path of Hall. Thompson headed against the bar, but Allen was adjudged to be offside when he drove the rebound into the net.

Thornley, on loan to Huddersfield from Manchester United, was the only player willing to trap the ball and keep it at his feet. He was expecting to supply passes to

Booth, but his striking partner had to retire hurt after Knight collided with him on the six-yard box.

Huddersfield's solitary effort in the second half came when Edwards cut inside and the ball trickled just a yard past Knight's post. The home supporters began to tease Portsmouth with the erroneous chant of "1-0 to the Millwall".

It served to strengthen Pompey's resolve, with every player tackling ferociously.

With minutes remaining, Thornley was involved in a futile altercation with Simpson and was sent off by Jim Rushion, a referee officiating for the last time in professional football. At the final whistle, Portsmouth players ran to their supporters where they were told that relegation rivals Millwall had drawn 0-0 at Ipswich and Portsmouth's safety was guaranteed.

Allen said: "I think we feel relief more than anything. It isn't really a mood of celebration, we're just glad it's all over and we're still in the first division next season."

Trouble flared briefly at the end when Portsmouth supporters spilled onto the pitch and a small group ran towards the home supporters. Scuffles broke out before four police horses separated the factions and order was restored.

Huddersfield Town (4-2-4): S. Francis — S. Jenkins, T. Scully, I. Gray, T. Coates — L. Miles (sub: S. Collins, 28min), D. Bullock — R. Edwards, P. Jupp, A. Booth (sub: S. Baldry, 6), B. Thornley.

PORTSMOUTH (4-4-1-1): A. Knight — A. Thompson, A. Hallett, G. Batters, J. Flett — P. Hall, A. McCoullough, M. Allen, F. Steenson — J. Carter — D. Burton.

Referee: J. Rushion.

Izzet makes Watford bow to the inevitable

Watford 0
Leicester City 1

By Andrew Longmore

THE career of Graham Taylor took another step back to its humble beginnings at Vicarage Road yesterday. Twenty years after lifting Watford out of the bottom division and onto a roller coaster ride to second in the top division, he watched as his side slipped further down the Endleigh Insurance League.

A goal by Mustafa Izzet condemned Watford to the delights of Rotherham, Shrewsbury and Chesterfield next season and kept alive Leicester's hopes of a return to the likes of Old Trafford and St James' Park.

Leicester meet Stoke City in the first leg of the play-offs next Sunday at Filbert Street, their fourth tilt at promotion via this route in the last five seasons, but little in a workmanlike victory suggested that the play-offs will do anything more than delay the despair.

In Heskey, Leicester have a player of raw pace and talent, in Claridge a durable old stager, but they lack invention in midfield and pace down the wings. The Premiership

would surely be beyond their capabilities at present.

To be fair, the Watford miracle had already been performed. On April Fool's Day, they were ten points away from survival and already resigned to relegation. For the past three weeks, defeat would have been terminal, but a spate of goals and a run of four wins in five games staved off the inevitable until the last 90 minutes of the season. They are born optimists here and the standing ovation for their team at the end suggested that their sense of perspective had not deserted them during a traumatic season.

When Taylor arrived in



Taylor: vain struggle

mid-February, along with Luther Blissett as coach and Elton John as talisman, escape seemed to be written into the script, but two defeats in the first two games highlighted how low the club had sunk since Taylor's departure a decade ago. Nostalgia alone proved to be inadequate and the only consolation was that, even if Watford had won, results elsewhere went against them.

Quite what role the former England manager will play now remains to be seen. He was in suit and tie yesterday, as befits his title of general manager, but he was still directing operations from the touchline and will find it hard to hang up his track suit. Watford will have a reshuffle through the summer to face their first season outside the top two divisions for 17 years.

The decisive goal summed up a strangely subdued, even confused, affair. A cross by Whitlow on the hour was headed back across his own goal by Devon White, the Watford centre-forward, and Izzet, a 21-year-old on loan from Chelsea, headed home from close range for his first goal in league football.

Leicester deserved no less. Surprisingly, Watford lacked spirit or adventure as if they knew their day had gone. Only Mounie, a livewire of a left-winger, gave the Leicester defence any trouble. White turned a left-foot shot from Mounie's cross into the arms of Poole and Ramage.

Watford's top scorer, blazed over from 12 yards, but there was little sign of the scoring form that had brought 17 goals in five games. As Watford belatedly threw caution to the wind, Leicester could have extended their lead. Heskey, Robins and Claridge wasting presentable chances to put the matter beyond doubt.

At the final whistle, Taylor lead his team into the middle of the pitch to applaud the home fans. He might have mistaid his old magic touch, but he still has the human touch, at least. Leicester will look to history for their success. Two years ago, the city's rugby union side lost to Bath in the final of the Pilkington Cup and Leicester gained promotion through the play-offs.

WATFORD (3-4-1-2): F. Miller — R. Page, S. Palmer, D. Luddon — D. Babb, J. Heskey, D. Whitlow, G. Power, C. Ramage — I. Mounie, D. Connolly.

LEICESTER CITY (4-4-2): R. Poole — S. Grayson, J. Wang, S. Walsh, M. Whalley — M. Izzet, M. Lomax, S. Taylor, E. Heskey — M. Poole, (sub: G. Pinner, 83), S. Candage.

Referee: T. Hartley.

Keegan's team sees title aspirations disappear with leaden-footed display Newcastle fall below the highest standards

Pressman ensures Wednesday share spoils

Newcastle United 1
Tottenham Hotspur 1

By PETER BALL

NEWCASTLE United's season of high drama ended in anticlimax in the bright spring sunshine yesterday. Needing to win to give themselves any chance of taking advantage of a slip by Manchester United at the top of the FA Carling Premiership, they could only draw as nerves left them leaden-footed and dull-minded for too long.

At the close, the supporters, whose belief and loyalty has never wavered, stayed behind en masse to cheer their team and manager. After 15 minutes, Kevin Keegan answered their calls and led his players on a lap of honour, but their trudging steps revealed that it was an act of duty, the celebrations of their highest position for 69 years having a hollow ring after the rich promise of winter, when they had led the Premiership by 12 points.

Yesterday, Newcastle did not do themselves justice. Their only chance was to win and hope that Middles-

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brough could do them a favour. Even that proved an illusory hope as Manchester United won in style, making events at St James' Park irrelevant.

Yet Newcastle did not do their job, anyway. Tentative and nervous, the attacking flair that had lit up the Premiership deserted them for too long yesterday afternoon, only a late flourish when Asprilla arrived - and, equally significantly, Sol Campbell departed - enabling them to claim the draw.

Until then, Tottenham Hotspur had looked far the livelier and more dangerous side, Sheringham once again pulling the strings with his intelligence, and only some poor final passes preventing them from taking the lead long before they did.

Newcastle, by contrast, had little to offer. A team built on skill and imagination ended up hurrying the ball forward for Ferdinand and hoping. It was a forlorn hope. Campbell's physique overshadowed even the England striker and he towered above him, heading long ball after long ball away to safety.

With Beardsley running into cul-de-sacs, Ginola's promise too often failing to reach fruition and, for a time, Batty reverting to type and



Ferdinand, right, is congratulated by team-mates after equalising for Newcastle, but the celebrations are muted as their title hopes were already fading. Photograph: Dave Jones

giving the ball away constantly, Newcastle had little penetration, even though they had the better of the possession.

Tottenham, for their part, always looked likely to exploit the known failings of the Newcastle defence. As early as the second minute, Sheringham's clever pass put in Howells, who went down claiming a penalty as Batty ran across him, but Dermot Gallagher, the referee, was not impressed. Another minute and Mabbutt got free for a header from Anderson's free kick and, although he put it wide, it was already evident that Newcastle were not on their game.

However, soon their first and, as it turned out, their best chance of the first half arrived when Ferdinand's flick reached Ginola at the far post, six yards out. The ball hit the Frenchman on the thigh and spun away, a mistake by such an assured player that told its own story.

Soon Sheringham was sending in a couple of sighting efforts as Newcastle gave the ball away and then the news came through that Alex Ferguson's team had taken the lead at Middlesbrough. The supporters, however, had a fervour that their team was lacking and it persuaded them to increase the decibels in their attempt to urge Newcastle forward. It had its effect. Walker needed to make one excellent save from Batty and then another, more straightforward one, but, by the interval, the most pertinent question seemed to be when Tottenham would score rather than when Newcastle would.

The answer was ten minutes after half-time. News had just come through of Manchester United's second goal when the worst happened. Newcastle had been giving the ball away consistently. This time, Beardsley, of all people, did it on the halfway line with the defence exposed. Shering-

ham's attempt to send in Anderson failed, but when he recovered the ball, his cross found Armstrong, who turned it back for Dozzell to place it beyond Hislop.

Newcastle might have equalised almost immediately as that goal stirred them into action, but Ginola's drive was turned onto the crossbar by Walker. At last, the introduction of fresh legs brought fresh ideas and turned the tide. Asprilla had been on the field for four minutes, much of it occupied with treatment on Sheringham, when he reached the byline, turned his man and laid the ball in for Ferdinand to shoot home.

With that, Newcastle moved forward in a last attempt to win the game. They might have done so as Mabbutt misjudged a bounce and Clark took advantage to lob over Walker only to see the ball rebound off the bar.

With Campbell now off the field, the straightforward high

ball was paying dividends, but not enough for Newcastle, although Walker had to make one excellent point-blank save from Ferdinand.

Keegan last night defused his criticism of the Manchester United manager, Ferguson, by hailing the team from Old Trafford as "great champions".

"Our congratulations go to Manchester United and their supporters because we're good losers here," Keegan said. "Everyone has said that we have thrown it away, but that is not giving credit to the way they have caught us. They will be great representatives of this league in Europe - I wish it was us, but there you are."

NEWCASTLE UNITED (4-4-1-1): S. Hislop - S. Walker, D. Dozzell, R. Albert, R. Elliott - B. Barry, D. Ginola - P. Beardsley (sub: F. Asprilla, 66) - L. Ferdinand.

PREMIERSHIP AT A GLANCE				
	Played	Points	Goal diff	Recent form
1. Manchester Utd	38	82	+38	WLWWW
2. Newcastle	38	78	+28	WWWDW
3. Liverpool	38	71	+17	WDWDD
4. Aston Villa	38	69	+17	WDWDL
5. Arsenal	38	65	+17	LDLWL
6. Everton	38	61	+20	WLDWW
7. Blackburn	38	61	+14	WWWDD
8. Tottenham	38	61	+18	DDWDD
9. Nottm Forest	38	58	-4	LDLDW
10. West Ham	38	52	-9	LWOLD
11. Chelsea	38	50	+2	LWDDL
12. Middlesbrough	38	43	-15	WDLWL
13. Leeds	38	42	-17	LLLLD
14. Wimbledon	38	40	-15	WWLLD
15. Sheffield Wed	38	40	-13	WDLDD
16. Coventry	38	38	-18	LWDWD
17. Southampton	38	38	-18	LWLWD
18. Manchester City	38	38	-25	LLWDD
19. QPR	38	33	-19	LWLWL
20. Bolton	38	28	-32	LLWLL

Weekly change: Up Stayed the same Down

West Ham United 1
Sheffield Wednesday 1

By DAVID POWELL

IF SHEFFIELD Wednesday were anxious about the prospect of relegation from the FA Carling Premiership, it did not show at Upton Park yesterday. There was urgency in their game, but they did not look as though they were living on their nerves.

Only if Wednesday had lost and Manchester City, Coventry City and Southampton had won would they have been relegated, and in no less ignominious circumstances than when they went down from the top division six years ago.

In 1990, Sheffield lost five of their last six matches and now, once again, they were latecomers to the relegation struggle. Had it not been for a goal in second-half injury-time yesterday, they would have finished this season with five defeats in their last seven games.

However, Jon Newsome rose to head in Guy Whittingham's cross, Julian Dicks having given West Ham a 72nd-minute lead. Michael Hughes supplied the cross from a free kick for Dicks to run in unmarked and head to the right of Kevin Pressman.

A sequence of fine saves from the Wednesday goalkeeper frustrated West Ham. After ten minutes, Hyde was dispossessed by Dowie inside his own half and the forward's shot sent Pressman flying to his left.

Two minutes after the interval, he kept out an electric 25-yard drive by Hughes, though he must have felt the voltage go through him, and the match may have been put



Martin: asked to stay

beyond the visitors had not Pressman, after 81 minutes, not gone down smartly to repel a shot by Williams. Yet West Ham were restricted mainly to long-range shooting as the Wednesday players ran and challenged as if their Premiership status depended on it.

"We picked the right team for the day," David Pleat, their manager, said. "They did not let us down." Cries of "Pleat out" had reverberated around Hillsborough in the 5-2 home defeat by Everton a week earlier. Pleat rejected any suggestion yesterday that he might be on his way. "Perfectly all right," he said. "If I had won, lost or drawn, perfectly all right."

Only twice before they scored did Wednesday threaten the West Ham goal, on both occasions from set-pieces. The biggest cheer of the afternoon was reserved for Alvin Martin, the long-serving West Ham player, who came on as substitute for the last two minutes. West Ham's supporters were responding to what they presumed to be Martin's last league appearance. However, Harry Redknapp, the West Ham manager, said afterwards that he was still trying to tempt Martin to stay for another season.

WEST HAM UNITED (4-4-2): L. Neilson - T. Bramwell, S. Dicks, M. Hughes, J. Dicks - M. Hughes, D. Dowie, S. Potts, K. Rowland (sub: R. Ferdinand, 66min) - A. Collier (sub: F. Lampard, 66), J. Dowie (sub: A. Martin, 88).

SHEFFIELD WEDNESDAY (4-4-2): K. Newsome - P. Atherton, D. Walker, J. Newsome, B. Broome - G. Whittingham, G. Hyde, M. Parnis, R. Clarke (sub: J. Waddle, 75) - M. Duggan (sub: R. Humphreys, 83), D. Hirst.

Referee: R. Dicks.

Coventry able to celebrate after day of mixed emotions

Coventry City 0
Leeds United 0

By RUSSELL KEMPSON

HONOURS finished even at Highfield Road yesterday, on a twilchy, breath-catching afternoon in the FA Carling Premiership. Coventry City qualified for a thirteenth consecutive season in the top-flight, finally ridding themselves of the spectre of relegation, and Leeds United avoided what would have been a club record seventh successive league defeat.

Neither side deserved to win, neither merited a defeat, yet it was Coventry who experienced the full range of emotions, initial confidence, then self-doubt, then engulfing concern as proceedings elsewhere chopped and changed.

Salvation gained, certain sections of supporters decided that a spot of extra-curricular activity would not go amiss. Sporadic skirmishes on the pitch threatened to spiral out of control and overshadow Coventry's escape, but, with the arrival of police on horseback, the situation eventually calmed down.

Though edgy and unimaginative, Coventry had dominated a low-key first half. Yet as Ron Atkinson, their manager, and Gordon Strachan, his assistant, prowled the touchline like expectant fathers, urging their players on, the match went nowhere in particular.

The loudest cheers, after six and 41 minutes, were reserved for the news that Liverpool had scored against Manchester City at Maine Road. However, apart from the surging runs of Salako and midfielder of Jess, the Coventry supporters were more or less starved of inspiration.

Whelan, a £2 million buy from Leeds in December, frequently threatened in his usual swaggering style, but he, too, appeared to be afflicted by the enormity and importance of the occasion. Every time he found an opening, he either snatched at his shot, misdirected a header or strangely lost his footing on a basically sound surface.

It did not get much better after the interval, with Coventry presumably hearing the latest on Manchester City's demise and realising that, even if they lost, they could still stay in the Premiership. It did nothing,

though, for the spectacle, with Whelan missing three chances and Leeds becoming increasingly confident.

Under normal circumstances, the home supporters would have been baying for blood, such was the scrappiness of it all. Instead, their vocal encouragement reached a crescendo of near-panic as the bulletin from Maine Road revealed Manchester City's recovery to 2-2.

The closing ten minutes saw the play degenerate further, with Coventry content to hang on for a draw. For a minute after David Elleray, the referee, had blown the whistle, the players stood around, shaking hands, not knowing if they had done enough. It was a pregnant pause of some magnitude. Then the word filtered through that Southampton had drawn 0-0 with Wimbledon. It meant Coventry were safe, even if Manchester City had scored a late winner and, at long last, Highfield Road could breathe again.

COVENTRY CITY (5-3-2): S. Ogruzovic - A. Pickett, R. Shaw, L. Dicks, D. Burrows, M. Hall - P. Toller, E. Jess, J. Salako - R. Whelan, D. Odo.

LEEDS UNITED (4-4-2): J. Lums - G. Kelly, D. Whelan, C. Palmer, N. Worthington - A. Gray (sub: A. Cochrane, 70min), G. McAllister, M. Tisdale, R. Pashley - P. Merson, R. Williams.

Referee: D. Elleray.

Southampton hold nerve to prolong top-flight stay

Southampton 0
Wimbledon 0

By KEITH PIKE

SO, THE Saints go marching on in the FA Carling Premiership. In August, they will begin their seventeenth consecutive season in the top division, again inspired and, just occasionally, infuriated by Matthew Le Tissier, courtesy of a draw against Wimbledon at The Dell yesterday.

Their supporters became increasingly fraught at news of Manchester City's fightback against Liverpool, but, ultimately, could relax in the knowledge that club and icon were safe. Southampton live to struggle another day. They stayed up by courtesy of a superior goal difference as City's draw condemned them to relegation instead. City's fate made the day that much sweeter on the south coast, where Alan Ball, who left Southampton for the supposed greater potential of Maine Road last year, has not been forgiven by everyone. "He's short, he's fat, he's going to get the sack," they sang with ill-disguised glee.

Dave Merrington, elevated from the ranks to become Ball's successor, has no such fears. To keep Southampton in the Premiership with the financial odds so clearly stacked against them is no mean feat.

Merrington dashed from the ground to visit his wife, Pauline, in hospital, where she was admitted on Saturday. "He did well to get through the week and get to the ground today," Laurie McMenamy, the Southampton Director of Football, said.

Pauline's illness has taken the edge off things, but the premier league is the only one to be in. With a club of our resources, we would find it very difficult to get back up. To finish fourth from bottom is a successful season for us."

If it was mostly a day of delight for Southampton, it has been an even better week for Le Tissier, whose future now seems assured. He confirmed that, had Southampton been relegated, he would have left the club but he has played for and wants to play for. With Glenn Hoddle also installed as successor to Terry Venables as England coach, an international career that had all

but ended is also very much back on course.

"I would have gone had we gone down, but I will be here next season now," Le Tissier said. "It has been one of the toughest seasons I have had here. We were the width of a post away from going down and we would have found it very tough to come back."

Yesterday, free kicks and corners apart, Le Tissier hardly got a meaningful kick as he found it impossible to shake off the attentions of Kenny Cunningham, his man-marker. One of those corners allowed Dodd an early header that flew wide of the far post, another was met by Monkou and saved by Sullivan.

Those two moments, and a low, last-minute drive by Magilton that Sullivan turned away, were the only times that a goal was really threatened. In the end, goals were not needed.

SOUTHAMPTON (4-4-2): D. Bossert - A. Nelson, R. Hall, K. Monkou, F. Berrard - J. Dodd, J. Magilton, B. Venison, N. Hensley - M. Le Tissier, N. Shephard.

WIMBLEDON (5-4-1): N. Sullivan - C. Perry, D. Blackwood, A. Reeves, K. Cunningham, A. Kimble - E. Shoku, R. Carle, V. Jones, O. Lumbardson (sub: J. Goodwin, 88min) - D. Holdsworth (sub: M. Harford, 88).

Referee: M. Plead.

Dignified parting of ways as faithful ask Gullit to Bridge divide



Hoddle: hid emotions

Chelsea 2
Blackburn Rovers 3

By ALYSON RUDD

FOR Chelsea, Glenn Hoddle has, for the past three years, been a cultivated new stepfather, the sort that introduces trips to the theatre and organises long holidays in Tuscany. Judging by their reaction yesterday, the Stamford Bridge faithful have grown to love this way of life and, far from yearning for Sunday lunch at a burger bar, would much rather be meddling with the pasta machine in the cosy continental kitchen.

"Thank you Glenn, bring on Ruud Gullit," read one banner at

Stamford Bridge yesterday, and the chants were all for the Holland international. Gullit looked every dreadlocked bit the seasoned player-manager against Blackburn Rovers - prompting, cajoling, berating - but he has acted like that all season. If the Chelsea board values continuity as much as the Football Association, then Gullit would be their obvious choice as Hoddle's successor.

The Chelsea board, however, is a labyrinth of competing ideals and egos. "There could be a big surprise," Ken Bates, the chairman, wrote in his programme notes. He is wrong. Nothing that his board comes up with would surprise anyone these days.

The "special message" that

Hoddle promised the Chelsea supporters at his first FA press conference would appear to be that he is leaving with his grand design only half-finished. Chelsea have been squandering early leads all season and, with sentiment proving a lesser incentive than a Uefa place, Blackburn tore into them.

Blackburn's 4-4-2 formation, with Wilcox and Ripley in fine form on the flanks, proved the more effective strategy. At one point, late in the match, Blackburn were leading the pack after a place in European competition. In the end, their goals, from Sherwood, McKinlay and Fenton, were irrelevant. Spencer added a second for Chelsea - Wise having given them the lead in the first half - and reminded anyone

who had forgotten that he has been one of the lesser-sung heroes at Stamford Bridge this season.

"The job offer wouldn't have happened if it hadn't been for the players," Hoddle said yesterday of his promotion to England coach. Certainly, Chelsea revealed sufficient artistry this season to put Hoddle in the frame as far as the FA was concerned and perhaps if Eddie Newton, their incredibly composed midfield player, had lashed the season, they, too, could have aimed for a place in Europe.

As it is, Chelsea need fresh blood for next season. According to Gullit, there are gaps in defence, midfield and attack for significant signings. With Gullit under contract for another year, his presence could

provide the incentive for more overseas talent to complement the club's promising home-grown players.

Surely those "average" FA Carling Premiership sides that balance their teams with the likes of Duberry - injured for the game yesterday - and out-of-contract "superstars" will discover a formula that could enable them to challenge those elite teams that can spend to maintain success.

Hoddle predicted an even brighter future for Chelsea, but his departure has revealed that relations on the Chelsea board are not as harmonious as the club wanted us all to believe and rifts between Bates and Matthew Harding, Chelsea's millionaire vice-chairman,

could repel the best candidate for the vacant manager's seat.

Hoddle blew kisses at the end and did not look overly emotional at his departure. A coach relishing the top job can only be good news for England. "Personally, it's been a lovely way to leave the club," Hoddle said of the applause. "It's been an emotional week."

He felt very emotional, he admitted. The fact that he hid it so well can only help as he faces a future in a far brighter spotlight.

CHELSEA (2-4-2-1): D. Kearney - E. Johnson, D. Lea, A. Myers - C. Bantley (sub: D. Peacock, 88min), D. Wise, N. Spigden (sub: G. Rafter, 68), S. Mello - R. Gullit, J. Spencer - M. Hughes.

Referee: M. Ebdon.

Old rivals offer glimpse of possibilities for under-19 cricket

Tradition points way ahead

By JOHN GOODBODY

WHAT a pity it is that there is not a national schools cricket competition for senior boys as there is for football, rugby and other sports.

On Saturday, two outstanding XI's, Harrow and Malvern, shared a taut, drawn game of unexpected collapses and shifts in domination. However, most schools would never have the opportunity of playing such talented rivals because of their location.

This fixture is a peculiarity. It takes place because Malvern was billeted at Harrow during the Second World War and a worthwhile tradition began.

If there were a national under-19 competition, schools from different parts of the country would have the opportunity of meeting new opponents. This is one of the delights of the Boodle and Dumborne Cup in football.

As Paul Goode, the master-in-charge of cricket at Malvern College, said: "Everyone knows who is the best team on their particular circuit. What they do not know is where they stand nationally." Both Mark Williams, the master-in-charge of cricket at Harrow, and Ramesh Sethi, the head coach, also lament the absence of a national tournament, as

exists with the Lord's Taverners' competition at under-15 level. However, this event takes two years to complete, with the under-14s qualifying for the final stages the following summer.

Of 18-year-olds, Ramesh says: "There is not enough competitive cricket at this level. Competition is the only way to improve standards."

However, there are immense problems for schools. Williams says: "Ten weeks of a summer term is horribly short to fit in a competition, particularly during an A-level term. However, in other sports, it is noticeable that when a school wins a couple of rounds, everyone gets really excited."

Roger Tolhard, the Malvern professional, speaking with the realism of a former Test cricketer, believes the idea is a "nightmare". "You just do not have time," he said. "Schools would end up not fielding their first teams." There is the uncertainty of being able to ensure a meaningful match, with limited opportunity to reschedule postponed games.

Block fixtures with traditional rivals would also drift away and this might ultimately harm the game at the younger level. Harrow, with 800 boys, sometimes fields 18 school teams.

SPORT



IN SCHOOLS

However, the biggest difficulty is with A levels affecting exactly those boys who are likely to be involved in the first XI, with the academic staff reluctant to release pupils for matches.

Goode said: "I am under pressure to time the leaving coaches to get to a match in the shortest possible time before the start. You cannot argue with the reasoning."

Many schools also have boys who want to concentrate on A levels to the exclusion of sport during the summer. Williams explained the situation at Harrow: "If there are one or two reluctant chickens, they are kept in the fold because of the Lord's fixture against Eton. It is an incentive."

A possible solution would be to

have a qualifying tournament one year and the final rounds the next, or alternatively use the large number of festivals after A levels have ended.

Certainly, any national competition would have been decorated by the match on Saturday. Played on the Sixth Form Ground at Harrow, where such England captains as Archie MacLaren and F. S. Jackson acquired their early skills, Malvern reached 229 for nine before declaring.

Malvern, with ten of their unbeaten 1995 team available this summer, have already defeated Warwick, Millfield and King's, Worcester this term. They were 205 for two, with David Nash, the England Under-19 wicketkeeper, making 92, Mark Hardings 55 and Gavin Franklin 50. But then, chasing quick runs, they collapsed. Simon Engelen took four for 47.

Harrow, considered by Sethi to be "probably the best team and certainly the best batting side" in his nine years at the school, replied by reaching 146 with only two wickets down. Then Andrew Cox, who had made 53, was run out and, although Harrow continued to threaten the Malvern total, they began to lose wickets. They ended at 206 for eight.



Franklin, of Malvern, strokes an elegant cover drive during his 50 against Harrow

Dunfermline hit the target at last

Bert Paton looked as if he was in the midst of a costume change. The Dunfermline Athletic manager was wearing blazer, club tie and studious spectacles in the dugout during the 2-1 win over Airdrieonians, but there was also a black-and-white scarf as well as a baseball cap. On the afternoon in which his team won promotion back to the Bell's Scottish League premier division after a four-year absence, he was an employee turning into a fan.

Everyone at East End Park has felt the tug of emotion in the past few weeks and Paton has been dressed in the same way for the past two Saturdays. At times, it had seemed that Dunfermline would suffer from an excessive number of motives. The desire to win the first division title as a tribute to Norrie McCathie, their club captain who died in an accident at the beginning of this year, could, by itself, have been enough to leave them overwrought.

Their resolve, however, was also strengthened by mundane ways as well. Dunfermline's reputation, of late, has been for rousing but ultimately doomed attempts to grasp promotion, but the public had ceased to be enthralled by a story grown too familiar. Instead of admiring dogged players whose determination renewed itself after every disappointment, some had come to think of the team as a gathering of losers.

Such an accusation is an assault on the pride of a professional footballer. So many grievances and so many cravings have surged through Dunfermline in the past few months that they must have been in danger of a short-circuit. For once, however, the lights did not go out at East End Park.

The victory over Airdrie was unsightly and tinged with good fortune, but it sufficed. Dundee United, who drew 2-2 with Morton at Cappielow, are left to seek a return to the premier division through a hazardous play-off, conducted over two legs, against Partick Thistle. Few had predicted that Billy Kirkwood's team,

KEVIN McCARRA



Scottish commentary

doomed as it is with expensive signings, would be left to such toll.

Dunfermline certainly did not exude an air of superiority. Paton's side is packed with old sweat, men who have slogged their way to a livelihood over many years at East End Park or with other clubs. Ian Westwater, Craig Robertson, Colin Miller, Hamish French, Brian Rice, Allan Moore — such players could be forgiven for thinking of the game as a means to pay the mortgage rather than a path to glory.

Yet ageing footballers are often showed too little respect. Instead of sinking into cynicism and dreaming only of one last signing-on fee to ease the passage into middle age, most are still able to give themselves to a cause.

Being at Dunfermline, of course, might make it a little easier for them to believe that football will enrich their lives. The ground is an appealing anachronism, with a single stand and terracing on three sides, that reminds you of the 1960s, when Jock Stein was one of the managers, when the Scottish Cup was won twice, when Everton could be beaten in European competition, when the team reached the semi-finals of the Cup-Winners' Cup.

Even now, the players know they are part of a distinguished club. Laden with debt though it is, Dunfermline has the potential to enhance the premier division, as the attendance of 13,183 on Saturday proved. In the short term, however, the team will simply have to survive and, given the inadequacies, next season may be one long test of their powers of resistance.

Haynes signals start of new era for Hayes

Carshalton Athletic 0
Hayes 3

By WALTER GAMMIE

WHEN a stunning left-footed volley by Junior Haynes angled into the top left corner of the Carshalton Athletic net, it brought Hayes the Icis League championship and promotion to the Vauxhall Conference at Colston Avenue on Saturday.

The goal, in the 75th minute, was all-important. It meant that the 84th minute winner scored by Ian Richardson for Enfield at Yeovil Town was not enough — as it would have been if Hayes had won only 2-0. The clubs would then have been level on goal difference and a hard-fought title would have been Enfield's for scoring more goals.

"That was the best goal I've seen in my life," Terry Brown, the elated Hayes manager, said. He knew it was good enough to clinch the title by

keeping an eye on Willy Wordsworth, his assistant, sitting in the stand opposite the dugout, who was in touch by mobile phone with Dave Killock, the club scout, who was at Huish Park.

Throughout, despite the tension of the day, Hayes played with remarkable freedom, summed up by two first-half goals headed in by Gary Williams. The final flourish ensured Hayes's 25-match unbeaten run to the season's end brought a fitting reward.

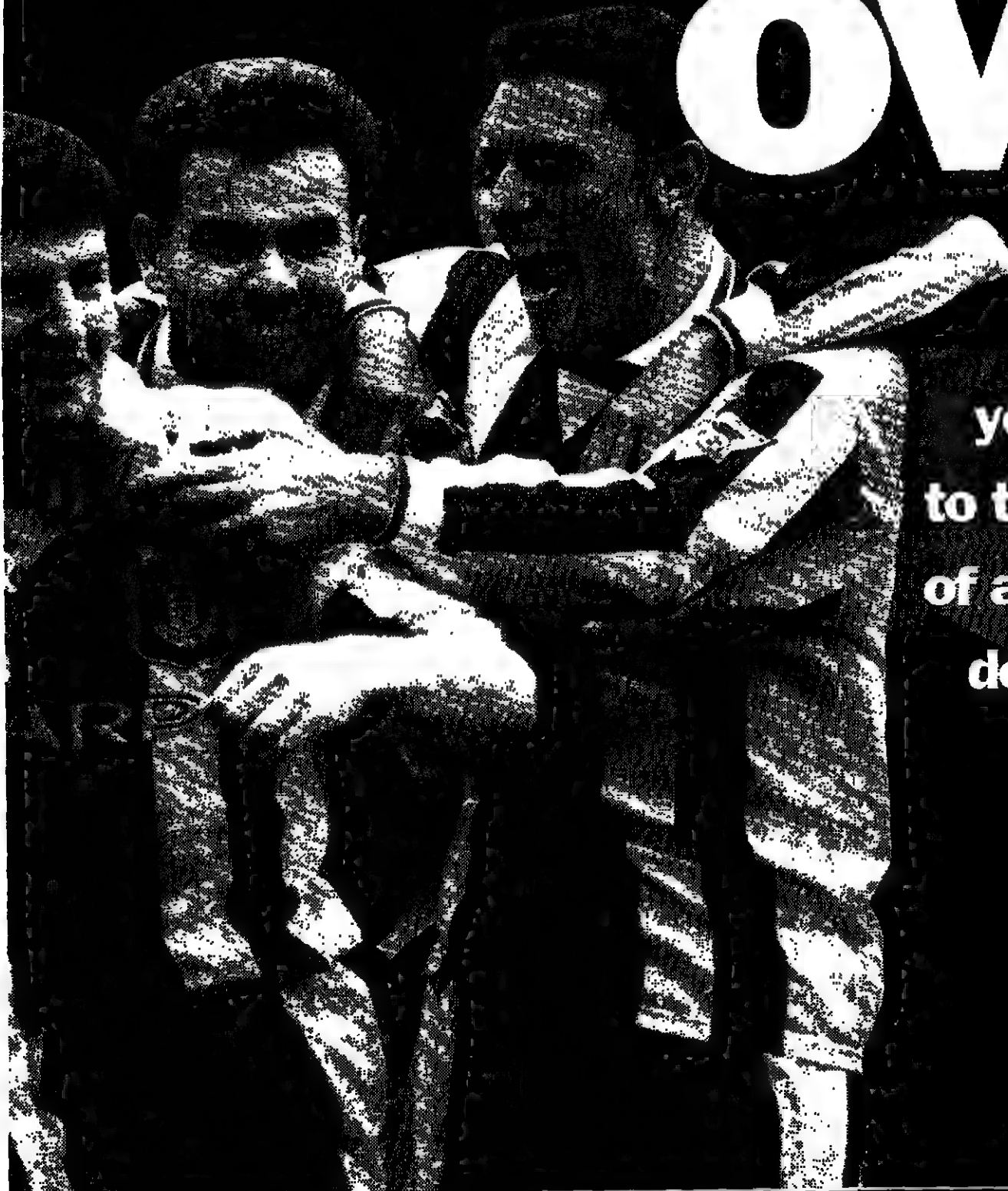
CARSHALTON ATHLETIC (5-2-3): L. Carey — N. Robson (sub: S. Enemo, 22min), E. Saunders, M. Hamsworth, P. Clark, S. Day — J. Haynes, J. Upjohn — S. Bailey (sub: G. Bowyer, 58), F. Vines, A. Salter.

HAYES (4-4-2): R. Means — D. Wilkinson, J. Goodillie, A. Cox (sub: J. Haynes, 85), J. Brady — M. Wardell, F. Hyatt, S. Baker (sub: J. Squire, 81), L. Flynn — D. Pearce, G. Williams.

Referee: E. Green

□ Rushden and Diamonds will join Hayes in the Conference after winning the Beazer Homes League, a 3-2 victory over Merthyr Tydfil before a crowd of 4,664 at Nene Park securing their success.

it's not quite over



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Tendulkar tucks into the opening course

By Alan Lee, Cricket Correspondent

ARUNDEL (the Indians won the toss; the Indians beat the Duke of Norfolk XI by nine wickets)

THE India selectors received early warning yesterday that they may have chosen their touring team under a misapprehension. Four spin bowlers is a balance for an Indian summer, not an English spring, and they will struggle to justify it if there are many more days of the damp, chilling weather that blighted the traditional opener at Arundel.

The temperature was nudging 40C when the Indians left home last week. Yesterday, it had barely reached ten when the skies darkened menacingly in the early afternoon and steady rain brought the lavish lobster and champagne picnic to a rudely premature halt. Out in the middle, the Indians played on, swathed in sweaters.

With Sachin Tendulkar making the first of what will surely be several centuries on the tour, they won this game easily enough — too easily, indeed, for the sake of the occasion — but, on the pitches they can expect during May and June, they will find their first-class programme hard work. It is easy, for instance, to envisage Javagal Srinath being horribly overworked.

Not that this seemed to bother anyone yesterday, least of all the shy, pleasant Srinath, who delivered seven precise, exacting overs and took the wicket of Jason Law. One of six past or present Hampshire players in a home team somewhat lacking charisma.

All touring teams love playing at Arundel and it is easy to see why. The setting is majestic and it is the only time outside the international fixtures that they play before a large crowd. Yet to survive and prosper, the future needs to be competitive and to feature appealing characters.

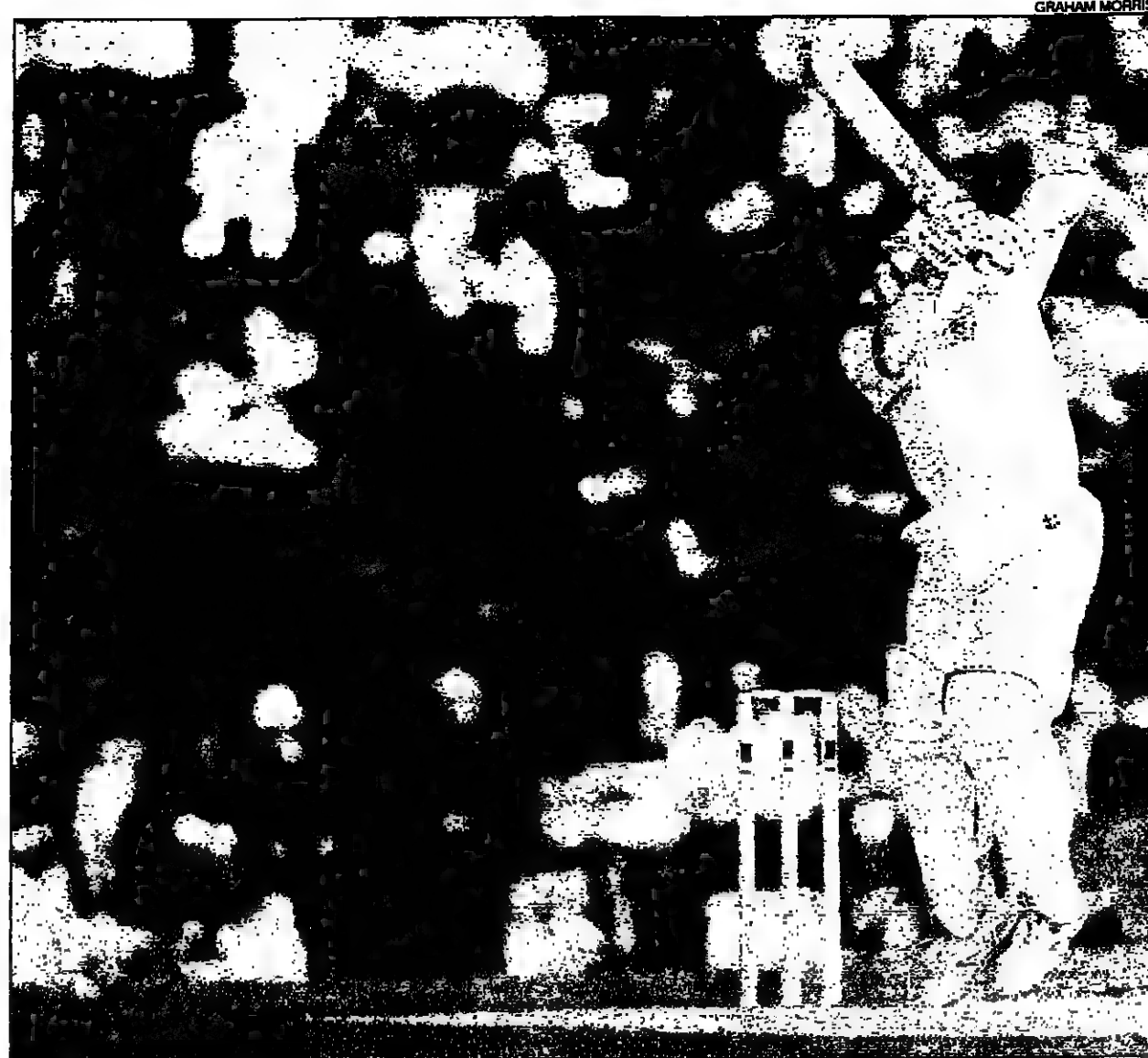
Next year, the Australians will not arrive in England until mid-May, a week before the Tessa Trophy begins, yet they have still expressed enthusiasm for starting their tour at Arundel. Sensibly, the Test and County Cricket Board is trying to accommodate the game on a day when more county teams are idle.

The crowd yesterday was not as big as the one the Australians draw, but it was still 4,000 and strong on social graces. Before play, four blazer-and-tied gentlemen solemnly bore in a vast white structure on their shoulders. It looked like a plastic coffin but it was, in fact, a picnic basket.

The Indians, who were also not short of support, broke with tradition by putting the Duke's side into bat and, apart from a breezy 60 by Robin Smith, keeping them firmly in check. Rajesh Rao, a 22-year-old opener now on the books of Sussex, occupied 40 overs in making 47. It was a big day for him, especially as he is of Indian parentage, but it did not exactly help the flow of the game.

Anil Kumble knows how to bowl in England, as his 105 wickets for Nottinghamshire last year testify, and he was unfathomable here in taking three for 15. There were three wickets, too, for the left-arm spin of Sunil Joshi, but an inauspicious start for one of the slim seam attack. Paras Mhamrey, who appeared to think that he should bowl short to Smith.

The innings faded to oblivion after a break for rain and the Indians' target of 169 in 48 overs was never likely to extend them. To their credit, they declined to trivialise the event and lost only Sidhu after an opening stand of 139. Tendulkar, having taken 23 from an over by John Childs, proceeded to his century from 97 balls as it was a formality. He will light up the first half of the summer, even if the sun does not.



Smith goes on the offensive during his innings of 60 for the Duke of Norfolk XI at Arundel yesterday

Lancashire ease to opening victory

By Simon Wilde

CANTERBURY (Kent won the toss; Lancashire (4pts) beat Kent by nine wickets)

KENT'S defence of their Axa Equity & Law League title could hardly have got off to a worse start yesterday, when they were comprehensively outplayed by Lancashire.

Kent's score of 184 for nine was made to look wholly inadequate by Lancashire's opening pair of Jason Gallian and Michael Atherton, who shared a partnership of 159 in 32 overs.

Gallian took the lead role, scoring his competition-best of 85 at better than a run-per-ball and leaving Atherton to bat through his side's innings in more subdued fashion and see Lancashire home with five

overs to spare. Had Gallian not chipped a ball from Long to Hooper at wide mid-on, he and Atherton would probably have stayed together until the end and broken Lancashire's all-wicket league record of 182.

Gallian hit the ball with impressive freedom on a sluggish pitch that had most other batsmen struggling. Atherton finished 79 not out from 116 balls.

With both teams promising to challenge for the title, this match was a key fixture, which made Kent's defeat all the more disappointing. Once Gallian and Atherton had negotiated testing opening spells from Wren and Thompson, Kent's out-cricketer appeared to lose focus.

Well as Lancashire's openers played, the groundwork for the victory was performed

by Martin, Austin and Watkinson, their seamers, who gave their opponents very few balls to get away.

Atherton will have taken something else out of the day, which was the form of Mark Ealham, the Kent all-rounder.

With a pugnacious half-century from 46 balls, which injected some much-needed life into the Kent innings, Ealham again showed himself to be a steady-eyed competitor, just the sort of all-rounder that England's one-day side could do with.

He found the gaps with unerring precision yesterday and clubbed one memorable six deep over the long-on boundary off Elworthy. Lancashire's overseas player who continues to struggle to make an impression in a powerful bowling attack.

Jones hits century as Derbyshire triumph

By Ivo Tennant

DEAN JONES has a long-standing and deserved reputation as one of the finest attacking batsmen in the limited-overs game. It is one that, given the amount of cricket that he will be required to play as Derbyshire's new captain, is likely to be enhanced by September. In his first Axa Equity & Law match for his new county yesterday, he batted in the manner that bowlers have come to dread.

His unbeaten century enabled Derbyshire to beat Leicestershire by four wickets. Jones, whose task is to ensure that some talented individuals play to their full potential, batted throughout the innings, bringing about victory in the last over. Barnett, his predecessor, also made runs.

Across the county boundary, another century was made. This was by Pollard, Nottinghamshire's opener, and it contributed significantly to setting a record. Their total of 292 for two, against Sussex, was their highest in the history of the competition, exceeding 283 for six against Yorkshire in 1987. Pollard put on 89 in 15 overs for the first wicket with Robinson and then 165 in 21 overs with Johnson.

No Sussex bowler was spared. Pollard faced 108 balls in all and struck nine fours and two sixes. The one surprise was that Johnson did not make a century. His unbeaten 97 came off only 78 balls and included eight fours and a six. Sussex, who were 67 for five at one stage, were grateful to Law and Drakes for some late and effective hitting to prevent the margin of victory appearing embarrassing.

There was a victory, too, for Northamptonshire at Chester-le-Street. Bailey, brought about this success with an unbeaten innings of 62. Collingwood, who distinguished himself last week by taking a wicket with his first ball in the first-class game, impressed further by making an unbeaten half-century for Durham.

Sting in the Dale secures Glamorgan triumph

By Jack Bailey

CARDIFF: Glamorgan (4pts) beat Yorkshire by five wickets

IN A thrilling finish, Adrian Dale, who scored the only half-century of the match, squeezed a single from the last ball to give Glamorgan a nail-biting victory.

Together with Robert Croft, Dale featured in the highest partnership of the match, 80 runs from 17 overs, for the fifth wicket and this was just enough to tilt the balance against a Yorkshire team that bowled and fielded as though their lives depended upon it.

It was like trench warfare as the teams battled it out on a pitch responsive to spin and well-directed pace. The batsmen were never secure and, despite their laudable efforts in the field, it was touch and go as to whether Glamorgan would succeed.

Croft, with three good wickets for 21, stifled Yorkshire's attempts to blossom after Moxon and Byas had got them off to a solid start. Barwick, accurate and economical as ever, together with Cottee's occasional off-spin, supported him well. Only Craig White's aggressive 31 carried Yorkshire to 167 for seven.

Even taking into account the vagaries of the pitch, this had not seemed too formidable a target, but after James and Morris had seen Glamorgan off to a reasonable start, the home team lost its way. White and Hartley bowled with great accuracy and, almost before we knew it, James, Morris and Maynard (disastrously run out) had gone and Yorkshire were back in with a chance.

Stump proved immensely difficult to play, as did White and Hartley, but Croft and Dale carried Glamorgan's hopes high, though always behind the clock, until, with ten runs still needed, Croft was caught by Morris at full tilt running in.

For Dale, the winning run was doubly sweet for, in similar circumstances against Yorkshire at Headingley last year, he had been bowled off the last ball of the match with three runs needed.

Runs about captains who lack in the



THE TIMES SUMMER

Six con

SATURDAY'S SCOREBOARDS

British Assurance county championship
Gloucestershire
LORDS (third day of four; Gloucestershire 10pts) beat Middlesex (8) by five wickets
MIDDLESEX: First Innings 218 (D Cooper 44)

Durham v Northamptonshire
CHESTER-LE-STREET (third day of four; Durham 10pts) beat Northamptonshire (8) by nine wickets
NORTHAMPTONSHIRE: First Innings
R M Montgomerie c Collingwood & Foster 10
M J Gifford c Brown & Bailey 40
R J Bailey c Brown & Bailey 40
M J Gifford c Brown & Bailey 40
U B A Rashid c Smith & Lewis 8
M R Fraser c Smith & Lewis 34
D Pickett not out 10
Extras (b 1, lb 4, w 1, nb 4) 10
Total (88.1 overs) 222

Derbyshire v Leicestershire
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DEBENTHURST (third day of four; Derbyshire 10pts) beat Leicestershire (8) by four wickets
DERBYSHIRE: First Innings 292 (Pollard 89, Robinson 165)

Gloucestershire v Middlesex
LORDS (third day of four; Gloucestershire 10pts) beat Middlesex (8) by five wickets
GLAMORGAN: First Innings 167 (Dale 62, Croft 31)

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Nottinghamshire v Sussex
TRENT BRIDGE (third day of four; Nottinghamshire 10pts) beat Sussex (8) by nine wickets
NOTTINGHAMSHIRE: First Innings 292 (Pollard 89, Robinson 165)

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Runs abound for captains who are back in the ranks

MARTYN MOXON, Kim Barnett and Hugh Morris have two things in common this morning: all three have started again in the ranks, having shed the cares and ambitions of county captaincy; and all three have made a double-century in their first championship innings of the season.

Too much can be read into this, for leadership did not exactly cripple their batting — in the 1995 championship, Moxon averaged 76, Morris 49 and Barnett 44. It is fair to say, however, that none of the trio stood down as captain last autumn without a wave of relief, a sense of release and, perhaps, an unspoken admission that the job had lost its appeal.

Moxon had needed persuasion to lead Yorkshire again last season; his sixth year was always going to be his last. Barnett, whose power rose in proportion to his service during 13 years in charge at Derbyshire, eventually fell through lack of success. Morris resigned in frustration at two years of failure after Glamorgan's Sunday league triumph of 1993.

Captains, like most other commodities, have an optimum shelf-life and maybe each of the three had outlived it. Distinguished figures though they were. During the 1990s, Moxon, Morris and Barnett have all captained representative sides, played Test cricket among Graham Gooch's innumerable opening partners and been mentioned as possible England captains.

In each case, their candidature was scratched because they were not quite good enough to hold down a Test place, which in turn made them ideal for county captaincy, a job not best suited by regular absenteeism on England duty. The county circuit is not the gentle arena it once was and its demands, expectations and egos have elevated the job of captaincy to previously unconsidered require-



ALAN LEE
Cricket Correspondent
Championship Commentary

ments that will make Barnett among the last of the great survivors.

Not quite the last, however. That man is probably Mike Gatting, now embarked upon his fourteenth year as captain of Middlesex and, after his side's fourth successive defeat of the new season, surely wondering why he did not follow the lead set by the trio of double-centurions.

Middlesex, gallant runners-up in the epic championship last year, have begun as if they are likelier to be in the nether regions of the table this time and were thoroughly outplayed by the resurgent Gloucestershire. Even without



Barnett double-century

Courtney Walsh, who returns from the Caribbean this week, the Gloucestershire seam attack overpowered Middlesex and Mike Smith's eight wickets for 73 suggested that he might yet win a Test cap.

It could have happened for Smith last year, when his belief finally matched his abil-

ity, but for an untimely injury. His fitness let him down again on the England A tour to Pakistan, on which he became a forlorn and detached figure, but if he sustains the form that brought Gloucestershire victory — their first at Lord's in 21 years — by five wickets, the selectors must consider him again.

Mark Illott will have something to say about that. The incumbent left-arm seamer in the England squad, he is only 25 and capable of better things yet — just ask his mentor, John Lever, who did not approach his best until his late twenties. Illott is still mastering the art of inswing to the right-handers, but, when it works, he is an impressive bowler. Three more wickets at New Road on Saturday left Essex on the brink of victory, with Worcestershire only 17 runs ahead with five wickets intact.

Somerset, for whom there was a fourth double-century of the round, scored by 181 going into the final day and Lancashire have been set 340 to win by Kent after two swift declarations sought to retrieve a result from two damp days.

But what of the retired captains? Barnett is already down to earth, out for eight at Derbyshire's second innings disintegrated — they now lead Leicestershire by 115 with four wickets left — and in the run-in at Cardiff, Morris's successor, Matthew Maynard, made a century of his own before declaring 54 behind and reducing Yorkshire to 32 for four. Moxon already out for ten. For one of the new captains, at least, pre-season optimism looks like surviving the opening week.

Gilbert squares up to Oval problems

Michael Henderson
talks to the coach
who believes he
can lift the gloom
surrounding Surrey



Gilbert has brought a fresh perspective, and a sense of purpose, to the Oval

leagues to come up with a side to play us. I remember thinking: 'This place is in serious trouble, for such a proud club and one of the most famous grounds in the world.'

The gift of "seeing things differently", as Gilbert puts it, is an advantage. The club has

been simmering for too long in the juices of its own complacency. In these circumstances, an unjaundiced eye could be the boon Surrey craved. Certainly, Gilbert, 35, who played in nine Tests a decade ago, is happy with the way things are settling down. Like other Australians who

play and coach here, he thinks more favourably of English cricket than some of his compatriots. "What is missing is the intensity that you find in Sheffield Shield games which, because there are only ten a season, are games that you prepare for more thoroughly. If cricket-

ers over here were able to prepare in the same way for every match, I'm sure you would find that level of intensity in the championship. But that's the way things are and I don't intend to make excuses."

Gilbert has recruited Brendon Julian, the West Australian all-rounder, as Surrey's overseas player and there is another new all-rounder in Chris Lewis, formerly of Nottinghamshire, who has convinced the club of his fitness. Where Lewis is concerned, Englishmen have learnt to expect little, and have not been proved wrong. An Australian coach wanting to make a good impression may have a greater fund of tolerance.

"We have the talent," Gilbert said. "The players have not moulded together as a team. In the past, maybe because they have not had the encouragement to do so, I want the senior players to lead by example. You can't keep on being promising when you are 25 or 26. That wears a bit thin after a while. If the senior players lead then the younger players will respond."

With the support of the captain, Alec Stewart, and with an apparent eagerness within the club to return to what it is actually there for, cricket, Gilbert can embark on his voyage of discovery with a spring in his step. There are bright young batsmen and bowlers of whom Adam Hildesley (one of those who does not fold) and, possibly, Alex Tudor, the coming pace-maker, have the most to look forward to. If they had a decent spinner, Surrey would fancy themselves to maintain a realistic championship challenge.

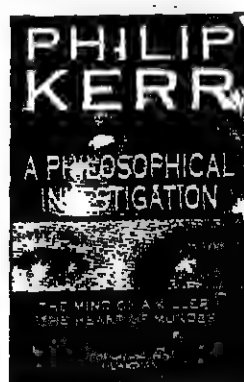
"I will be sick in the stomach if our players walk off the field at any time having short-changed themselves," Gilbert said. He is right in one respect: the talent is there. How well it is expressed on the field depends on how strongly and widely the players share his feelings. Until it is, Surrey will remain the great pretenders.

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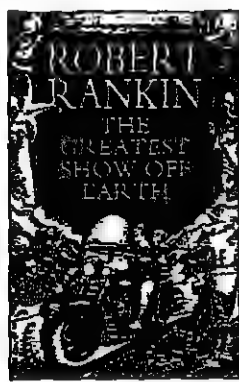
Elizabeth Jane Howard and Deborah Moggach. And they feature fictional characters who will help you to enjoy your time relaxing in the sun, such as Inspector Morse, Kavanagh QC and the two women in *The Sculptress*, which won the 1993 Edgar Allan Poe award. The only charge is £1.65 or £1.95, depending on weight to cover postage and packaging.



21st century London is a place of elaborate technology, uncontained violence and sickening squalor, where serial killing has reached epidemic proportions. Philip Kerr's thriller reveals a brilliant, distinctive talent.



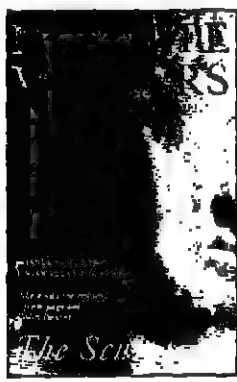
How can the discovery of a short story by a beautiful Oxford graduate lead Chief Inspector Morse to her murderer? Colin Dexter constructs a cunningly constructed whodunit with fiendish skill, in the tradition of Conan Doyle.



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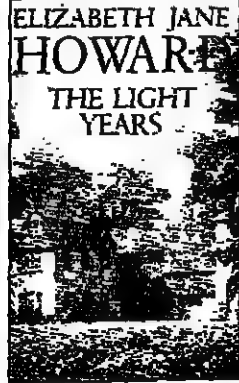
A vigilante accused of attempted murder, a Cambridge undergraduate suspected of rape, a prostitute accused of killing a tycoon — James Kavanagh QC can master any challenging brief. His profession is justice. But with his personal life constantly in crisis, it is not always easy for him to keep on top of the dramas unfolding in the courtroom.



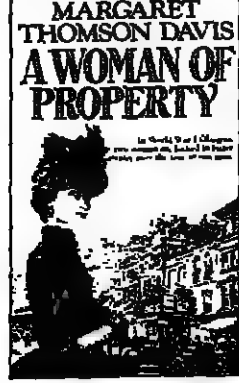
A Chelsea dinner party at the home of art gallery owners James and Victoria Harting sets in motion a chain of events that will leave none of the guests unscathed. Elizabeth Palmer has written a comedy of English manners — or lack of them.



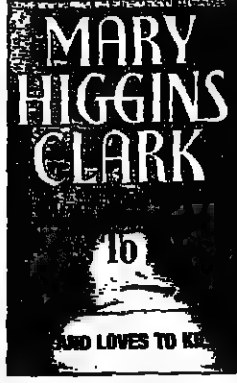
Three generations of the Cazelet family spend two unforgettable summers safe from the advancing storm clouds of war. Their relatives, children and servants are locked in a fascinating tale of affairs that shocks, moves and amuses by turns.



Architect Lee Morris, father of six sons, is drawn into the turmoil of a multi-million pound racecourse facing ruin, and the boardroom fight turns nastier when an explosion threatens his and his sons' lives. Another winner from the pen of Dick Francis.



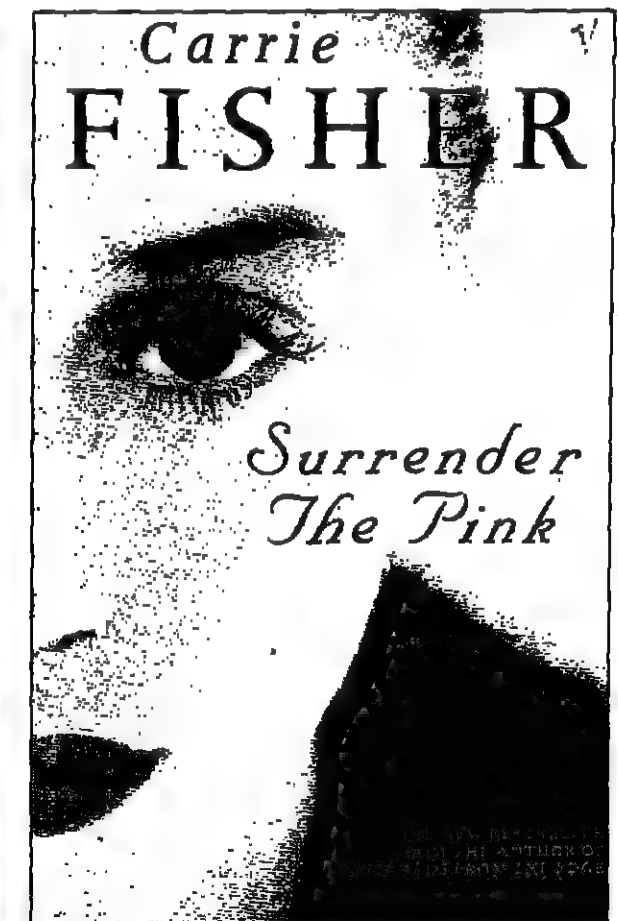
Adam Monkton takes over as head of his family's building firm. His wife Christina displays a surprising business acumen but he is still drawn to the passionate servant girl who bore his first child. This is a love story driven by sex, humour and excitement.



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Bath secure double as opponents pay penalty for professional fouls

Back's final gesture disgraces Leicester

Bath 16
Leicester 15

By DAVID HANDE
RUGBY CORRESPONDENT

THE rugby season in England reached the conclusion it probably deserved at Twickenham on Saturday: the last gasp of amateurism was a tense yet dreadfully-flawed Pilkington Cup final that displayed just how far the sport has to go to attain universal acceptance in the professional era.

Bath will not perceive this season as unsatisfactory, far from it. Winners of the league and cup double for the fourth time, their reaction to imminent defeat was the very snuff of sport: it takes a champion team, refusing to accept second place, to place themselves in a position from which they can win, even if it took a controversial refereeing decision to make their dream come true.

That decision will resound into next season. At last, referees in England have come round to the view that killing the ball is not a display of bulldog grit but cheating. This is not to say that Bath are Simon-pure, but all teams have been warned this season that persistent infringement will be punished. It has happened in league games, in the university and international matches and now in a cup final.

Thus, Steve Lander had the courage to award the penalty try in the final minute which, when Jonathan Callard propelled the conversion between the posts, gave Bath the cup for the tenth time. The feelings of the Leicester players can only be imagined. To lose a league title a week earlier by a single point was disappointing enough; to lose the cup by a similar margin left them devastated.

Yet even that cannot excuse Neil Back's reaction when Lander called time. Whatever explanations and apologies may have been forthcoming, the England flanker was clearly seen to shove the referee from behind in a petulant gesture from which rugby has been mercifully free over the years. No damage was done, nor will Lander complain, but that is not the point.

It is the example of a player laying hands on the referee that must be punished and Leicester, one of the clubs in



The Leicester players stand amazed and demoralised as Lander, the referee, awards the decisive penalty try to Bath in the last minute

the forefront of the professional debate, must be professional in their response. If they are not, then others will imitate Back's action and, in a game with as many opportunities for confrontation, the problem will expand and the supply of referees — already threatened this season by civil legislation — will wither. Leicester hope to conclude contractual negotiations with their playing squad this week and if they seek the moral high ground that could, on playing performance, have been theirs, they should fine Back heavily.

They have already been lambasted by John Hall, Bath's director of rugby, as a "negative force" for whom victory would have been a disaster for rugby. The sad-

ness for Leicester, however, is that, in the first half, they showed how a judiciously-mixed game could beat Bath and then chose to retreat from it. That was a tactical decision for which Richards, as captain, must bear the blame.

Malone's early try was the product of simple rugby, a rumbling run by the outstanding Garforth, a quick ruck and the stand-off half was over. Twice later on, they showed they could find cracks in the Bath wall, but then opted for the set-piece alone. Bath played as they did because they believe that ball-in-hand, fluid rugby is the only way to play in the new era and because, against Leicester's utterly magnificent pack, they had little choice.

Brian Ashton, their coach, emphasised the difference between the clubs: "We have to play to the talents of the players we have got," he said. Thus Call, after a difficult year, came into his kingdom. Leicester have Underwood, Potter, the running talents of Liley, the most creative flanker in the country in Back — and in the second half they chose not to use them.

"As has been our wont this season, when opportunities have occurred, we have not made the best of them," Ian Smith, the Leicester coach, said in a compelling rationale of his team's defects from which they will either emerge as a more potent all-round force or be crushed by its own shortcomings.

That Bath, the highest try-scorers in the land during the league season, should lose the try count is ironic indeed, but their attitude, which cannot be bought with mere money, justifies their achievements. When Poole flopped over from a Bath lineout to give Leicester a 15-9 lead, they dug into the deepest reserves in the English game.

Even those would not have been enough if Liley, wide with five of seven attempts at goal, had converted the try — but while Call may not be the greatest tactical kicker, give him possession and he will find space where others cannot. Invariably, the first attacking Bath runner broke the gain line and in those final frantic seconds Leicester were

penalised once, twice and a then third time.

Lander warned Richards of the possibility of a penalty try — as he had done both captains before the match — but the No 8 did not hear him and, when Call broke to within five metres and the ball died for a fourth time, the penalty try came and with it, Bath's iron hand on the cup.

SCORERS: Bath: Penalty try: Converter: Callard. Penalty goals: Callard (2). Dropped goal: Call. Leicester: Try: Malone. Points: Converter: Liley. Penalty goal: Liley.

THE GREATEST TUNE IN AND CHOOSE BRITAIN'S GREATEST SPORTS STAR

Tonight, Channel 4's *The Greatest* gives you another chance in the series to vote for the Greatest British sporting hero of them all. And your vote will count in more ways than one, because it could win you a pair of tickets to the European football championship or even the top prize of a trip to the Olympic Games in Atlanta with Daley Thompson.

The main aim of the 12-part series is to bring some degree of scientific method to the comparisons so that a motor racing driver can be judged against a cricketer, a jockey against a footballer. You probably won't be able to put aside your prejudices completely — we all have our heroes, and our favourite sports — but *The Greatest* will open your mind to achievements and personalities you may not otherwise have considered worthy of greatness.

The cases for Jackie Stewart, Lindor Christie, Bobby Moore, Torvill and Dean, Mary Rand, Ian Botham, Barry John, Nick Faldo, Steve Overt, Bobby Charlton, Lester Piggott, Steven Redgrave, Kenny Dalglish and Denis Compton of the 20 shortlisted have been stated. Each week two contenders are examined and their relative merits discussed by the panel of Frances Edmonds, author and broadcaster, Denny Kelly, editor of *Total Sport*, and a guest celebrity (tonight it is Jeffrey Archer). Chaired the debate is Gordon Kennedy. The final show will give the results and declare *The Greatest*. The *Greatest* is screened on Channel 4 on Mondays at 8.30pm and repeated on Saturdays at 10am.

TONIGHT'S CONTENDERS



LEN HUTTON

Len Hutton was one of the most brilliant jewels in English cricket's crown — not glitzy, perhaps, but a flawless, priceless diamond. As a batsman for Yorkshire and England between 1934 to 1955 he was the master technician, the complete player on all types of pitches. During the Second World War, which deprived him of his greatest years, he badly broke, and shortened, his left arm but

effortlessly adjusted his technique to overcome the handicap. He will always be remembered for his largest innings, his 364 in 13 hours against Australia in the timeless Test match at the Oval in 1938, which stood for 20 years as the Test record. He exhibited astonishing concentration for a 22-year-old and although it made tedious viewing it revealed the key to his personality — sheer bloody-minded determination. After the war he was England's most reliable batsman, resisting often after the fierce onslaughts from the likes of Lindwall and Miller. His average of 88 in Australia in 1950-1 was more than twice that of any other batsman on either side.

He was sometimes criticised for negativity, especially after becoming England's first professional captain this century in 1952, but he played hard and to win. By the time he retired early, exhausted and with no fields left unconquered, he had led England in six series and never been beaten. He was the first England captain to beat Australia home and away. He was knighted in 1958.



SEBASTIAN COE

The Olympic 1500 metres has been won by some of the most distinguished athletes but only Sebastian Coe has been victorious at two Games. His gold medals in 1980 and 1984, secured despite enormous pressure, demonstrated his ability to rise to the occasion, even when challenged by such outstanding British contemporaries as Steve Ovett and Steve Cram. His rivalry with the pair may have stimulated Coe to achieve

his physical potential but no runner has succeeded in beating his world 800 metres record of 1min 41.73sec, set in 1981. In a particularly competitive era for middle-distance running, Coe also took two Olympic silver and European bronze, silver and gold medals over 800 metres.

Coe was always gracious in defeat but he was intensely competitive in a race, particularly as in the Olympic 1500m finals, when he had been unfairly criticised by sections of the media. He suffered a series of injuries and illnesses with fortitude, usually recovering to produce his best in an important event. With Peter, his father and coach, Coe analysed what had gone wrong and was not afraid to try something new or to seek specific advice from specialists. He used his evident intelligence to improve his athletic performances. What Coe also enjoyed was a status and reputation, not only in Britain but across the world, as a model for the sport, frequently speaking out against drugs and for the integrity of the Olympic ideal.

WHAT YOU HAVE TO DO

You will be asked to score each sports personality in each of five categories. Each category carries a maximum of 20 points, so the total scores you give are out of a maximum of 100. The categories are:

- Achievement** — for honours won and overall record
- Dominance** — for quality of opposition, longevity and domination of peers
- Style** — for performance, technique, sportsmanship and image
- Fortitude** — for coping with pressure, will to win, self control and sporting intelligence
- Impact** — charisma and transcendence

THE PRIZES

Each week, Channel 4 and *The Times* will each be giving away a pair of tickets to the European football championship, courtesy of Carlsberg, the official beer of Euro 96, to the person who manages to match the average scores for both of that week's profiled sports personalities. In the event of a tie, a draw will take place. Ten runners up will each win a signed copy of Daley Thompson's book accompanying the series, *The Greatest* (Bodley, £14.99). At the end of the series, all the weekly winners will have the chance to win the greatest prize of all — a trip to the Olympics with Daley Thompson.

HOW TO REGISTER YOUR VOTE

By telephone: You can call *The Greatest* phoneline, on 0991 66 55 44

Lines are open from 9pm until midnight tomorrow and from 10am on Saturday, when the show is repeated, until midnight on Sunday. Calls cost 39p cheap rate, 49p at other times.

By post: complete *The Times* entry form and send it to *The Greatest* Week 8, PO Box 1413, London N1 8HY to arrive by noon on Friday.

	Achievement	Dominance	Style	Fortitude	Impact	TOTAL
LEN HUTTON	pts	pts	pts	pts	pts	pts
SEBASTIAN COE	pts	pts	pts	pts	pts	pts
Name						
Address						
Daytime telephone						

Proof of posting is not proof of receipt. Usual Times competition rules apply.
☐ Tick if you prefer not to receive further information from Channel 4 or The Times

Flanker finds crossword a pushover

Andrew Longmore is an unhappy onlooker as a season of rugby discord ends on a sour note

Twickenham housed the biggest crowd for a club match in this country — and maybe the world, the tannoy announcer was not explicit — and what did the 75,000 get for their record-breaking achievement? Two front rows bent on doing each other private mischief, some massive lineout jumping by Johnson, an increasingly inventive performance by Mike Catt, the Bath stand-off half, a number of incomprehensible (unintelligible) decisions by the referee, Steve Lander, some woeful goal-kicking and an ending worthy of the Keystone Cops as the referees collapsed on a pile of bodies hastened there by Neil Back, who had clearly decided that Lander's crossword-patterned shirt needed filling in.

Most of the Tigers followers would have made their flanker the man of the match for his hand-off, but the Rugby Football Union might not be so sympathetic. Either way, it was a deeply unsatisfying finale to a muddle of a match and an apt note on which to end a season of discord.

As this is the week in which the Pilkington Cup winners and Wigan tie the knot on the new relationship between rugby union and league, sport's oldest enemies, it is worth reflecting that exactly seven days earlier Wembley had been witness to a Challenge Cup final of sporting brilliance and rare passion, which turned, not on the whims of the man with the whistle, but on human strength and weakness, on fallibil-

ity, character, luck, courage, judgment, on the language of sport not the rulebook.

Next August, Bath, who are rapidly turning into the game's guinea pigs — or piggy banks perhaps — are due to play Northampton in a made-for-television match under experimental rules. Tries will be worth three points, penalties six points, neither of which will make a halfporth of difference, but the second half will be 15-a-side, which might. Doubtless the whole thing will be dismissed at HQ as a money-making gimmick, another adjunct to awful professionalism, but someone radical ought to take notice because rugby is so deeply confused about its present and future at the moment, it will only be a matter of time before it was discovered that William Webb Ellis did not, after all, invent the game by picking up the ball and running with it, but by taking out his quill and writing down 150 inexplicable rules on the back of his blotting paper.

To judge, though, by the question asked of John Hall, the Bath director of coaching, after his side had completed the double of Courage League and Pilkington Cup — "I suppose you will be going in and asking for a new contract now?" — the summer will be spent in noisy contemplation of bank balances

rather than silent reflection on the game's direction. Deals will be struck, sugar daddies sought, transfers haggled over and the traditional home of the game eased away from the wood-beamed snug of the Dog and Duck and into the Form-



Back, left, pushes Lander over at the end of the final

ca-topped cafeteria of the motorway service station. Anything to mask the inadequacies of — and we may as well get used to the marketing jargon — "the product".

Not that Bath and Leicester, for all the pious talk about style and the southern hemisphere, cared a hoot for the product nor the way they might play the game in Australia or New Zealand. Quite right, too. This was a cup final, for goodness sake, and neither side was going to give an inch. The trouble is that the chemistry between these two is unworkable, opposites obstruct rather than attract. Leicester get the ball a lot and have little clue what to do with it; Bath get the ball a little and do, though you would not have known it at times on Saturday, Alex Ferguson and Kevin Keegan might bitch at each other across the airwaves, but at least their teams have an on-field eloquence. Leicester and Bath bicker like fish wives.

Leicester scored two tries, the first a beauty, the second a flopover; Bath had to rely on the referee for theirs, which did rather contradict the champions' claims that Leicester are an affront to the noble game. Leicester's grudges will be incubated for the summer and emerge bigger and stronger. Few could blame the Tigers for their irritation. To have their tails tweaked twice in a week by the same team is not sporting justice. Perhaps their next match with Bath should be played behind closed doors. Then old scores can be settled in private.

Medicals find remedy for Cornish fire

MEDICALS, from Newcastle, who play their league rugby in Durham and Northumberland, beat Helston, from Cornwall, 16-6 to take the Pilkington Shield in a Twickenham final worthy of its stage (Barry Trowbridge writes).

Having weathered a battering in the opening 15 minutes, Medicals showed their handling skills in all but putting over Andy Greenwood in the corner from a tapped penalty, and took the lead after 27 minutes when Matt Bonner landed the first of three delightful dropped goals.

When Dave Lockwood, the Helston stand-off half, failed to convert a penalty from in front of the posts four minutes later, the trophy looked destined for its first trip to the North East and, as David Booth, 21, the Medicals captain, took control of the lineouts, that proved the case.

With eight active students in their number, it was not surprising that Medicals' speed and fitness saw them home, an excellent try by Richard Fretwell, wide on the left, Bonner's conversion and his two dropped goals inside three minutes shortly after the hour proving enough, just, to douse Cornish fire.

SCORERS: Medicals: Try: Fretwell. Converter: Bonner. Dropped goal: Bonner (3). Helston: Penalty goal: Lockwood (2). **MEDICALS:** M. Fretwell, A. Croog, G. Davies, D. McNeill, R. Fretwell, J. Bonner, J. Pritch, D. Burrows, S. Atkinson, H. Carr, R. McDowell, D. Rowe, D. Brown, A. Greenwood, P. Twiss. Greenwood replaced by J. Bank (43 min).

HELSTON: M. Lockwood, M. Buxby, M. Lally, D. Savage, S. Pollard, D. Lockwood, D. Kier, S. Savage, R. Eagle, E. Standford, A. Punter, P. Elliott, C. Johns, G. Hargrave, S. Trengrove.

Referee: J. Poonan (Durham)

Pontypridd reign as Bezani saves the best for last

Pontypridd 29
Neath 22

By GERALD DAVIES

PONTYPRIDD and Neath provided a capacity crowd at the National Stadium with a game of exciting ebb and flow and of such unexpected twists and turns that it must rank as the best of all the finals in the 25-year history of the cup in Wales.

The contest had tinges of brilliance, fortune favouring one team one moment, the other the next; there were errors, but they too only served to add to the excitement and tension — and all this was played against a backdrop of buoyancy and generous attitudes. Neither team har-

boured a negative thought. No quarter was asked or given, mind you. The tackling was intense, but the referee had only once to give a mild reproof and at no stage did the touch judges need to interfere.

Pontypridd were the worthy winners of the 1996 Wales Cup. They showed patience, dogged persistence and the willingness to run at the opposition when the match, four minutes into the second half and with the score at 22-9 against them, had drifted seemingly beyond their grasp. They are a fine team made and moulded by their admirable coach, Dennis John. There are no imported players, not even McIntosh, the New Zealand, who has been at the club for so long that he can be regarded as local as the rest.

This is not a "bought" team; a player borrowed from here, contracted from there. This is recognisably Pontypridd: born and bred, you might say.

For the past four years, they have been there or thereabouts, almost winning both league and cup competitions, but, when the sternest questions have been asked of their capabilities, they have never quite found the answers. Saturday, however, proved to be their well-deserved moment in the sun with their captain, Nigel Bezani, whose last game this was, left hugging the trophy. At 39 years of age, pure sentiment demanded that this honour should finally come Pontypridd's way.

They succeeded because they were true to themselves while Neath failed because

they were not. Neath became inhibited and cautious as the match wore on. They had gradually built a comfortable lead with three tries and a conversion in the first half, to which their opponents could only reply with a dropped goal and two penalties by Jenkins. Thus, Neath led 17-9 at the interval. Had they had the benefit of a good place-kicker, it might have been more. They chose to kick tactically more often than they usually do. This also let them down.

Horgan, who was playing an influential role, extended the lead with a try early in the second half. This was their moment to expand, but instead they became withdrawn so that the final half hour belonged to Pontypridd.

Richie Collins secured the loose ball, John teased and harrised at his forwards' heels and Jenkins began to rule his patch. Maturing as a player, he varied his tactics. Everything he did was correct, his timing and distribution by hand or boot frustrated his opponents and kept them back-peddling.

From Collins's run, Manley nearly scored — but, no matter, John, soon after, did. With Jenkins converting, it brought Pontypridd within one score. His penalty put them further within reach. Pontypridd were now rampant, smelling the fear that had enveloped their retreating opponents.

Manley, who had faltered twice in the first half to open gaps for Horgan and Leigh Davies's tries — Richard Jones

got the other for Neath — made amends when, coming away from his place on the right wing, his pass gave Gerald Lewis his first try.

With Neath panicking near their own line, Steele Lewis put in a finely-judged grubber kick that allowed his left wing to win the race for the touch-down and bring a thrilling final to an exhilarating end.

SCORERS: Pontypridd: Try: G. Lewis (2). Paul John, Converter: Jenkins. Penalty goals: Jenkins (3). Dropped goal: Jenkins. Try: L. Davies. Richard Jones, Horgan (2). Converter: Horgan.

PONTYPRIDD: C. Cornock, D. Manley, J. Lewis, S. Lewis, G. Lewis, M. Jenkins, Paul John, M. Davies, Phil John, W. Evans, R. Collins, M. Rowley, G. Preece, M. Lloyd, D. McIntosh. McIntosh replaced by M. Spiller (57 min).

NEATH: Richard Jones, C. Hogg, L. Davies, Paul John, Converter: Jenkins. Penalty goals: Jenkins (3). Dropped goal: Jenkins. Try: L. Davies. Richard Jones, Horgan (2). Converter: Horgan.

Referee: D. Brown (Cardiff)

Insolvency assistance not available

In re Focus Insurance Co Ltd
Before Sir Richard Scott, Vice-Chancellor
[Judgment March 12]

The English insolvency court would not assist the insolvency proceedings of another country pursuant to section 426(4) of the Insolvency Act 1986 where the relief sought was in relation to a person subject to a bankruptcy order in England and was inconsistent with the scheme imposed by the English insolvency legislation for the recovery of assets of a bankrupt.

Sir Richard Scott, Vice-Chancellor, so held in the Chancery Division dismissing the application of the liquidators of a Bermudian company, Focus Insurance Co Ltd, made pursuant to section 426(4) of the 1986 Act for orders against the respondents, Mark Gregory Hardy, in order to facilitate the discovery of information relating to his assets outside Bermuda.

Miss Elizabeth Gloster, QC and Mr David Ashton for the Bermudian liquidators; Mr Hardy in person.

THE VICE-CHANCELLOR said that Mr Hardy had been a director of Focus Insurance Co Ltd, a company carrying on general insurance and reinsurance business in Bermuda. That company was compulsorily wound up on February 5, 1991 pursuant to the Companies Act 1981 of Bermuda.

There was a substantial debt due to the liquidation of over US \$70 million and the creditors were likely to receive a dividend in the region of only two per cent.

On July 5, 1991 the liquidators brought an action against Mr Hardy for damages for breach of his fiduciary duties as a director of Focus. On the same day the Bermudian court granted a world-wide Mareva injunction against Mr Hardy restraining him from disposing of his assets and requiring disclosure of their whereabouts.

The liquidator obtained judgment against Mr Hardy for US \$20 million on January 15, 1993. His Lordship would deal with the liquidators' application on the footing that that judgment was final and established a debt owing by Mr Hardy to Focus.

In an endeavour to obtain assets whereby Mr Hardy's judgment debt to them might be satisfied they instituted bankruptcy

proceedings against Mr Hardy in England and on June 10, 1993 a bankruptcy order was made. Focus's debt represented 99.9 per cent of the total amount of the creditors' debts.

On November 3, 1995 the liquidators obtained an order from the Bermudian court for a letter of request asking the English courts to make an order pursuant to section 426 of the 1986 Act.

Section 426(4) provides: "The courts having jurisdiction in relation to insolvency law in any part of the United Kingdom shall assist the courts having the corresponding jurisdiction in any other part of the United Kingdom or any relevant country or territory." Bermuda was a relevant country or territory for the purposes of subsection (4).

Section 426(4) appeared to impose on the courts of this country a mandatory obligation. The words used were "shall assist".

But, of course, the subsection was silent as to the manner in which the courts of this country "shall assist" and it was easy to conclude that it could not be supposed that the courts of this country would have a mandatory obligation to provide assistance in a manner that was contrary to the proper conduct of a bankruptcy in this country.

His Lordship considered *In re Dalhousie Estates* [1992] BCLC 621 and *In re BCCI* (No 9) [1994] 3 All ER 764 and concluded that the court should assist unless there was a compelling reason not to do so or unless there was some good reason for not doing so.

Once bankruptcy had intervened it was the function of the trustee in bankruptcy to obtain information about the assets. The judgment debt was no longer recoverable by the various processes normally available for the satisfaction of judgment debts.

Therefore the purpose behind the letter of request was opposed to the scheme for realisation of a debtor's assets and payment of the debtors' creditors prescribed by the bankruptcy legislation in force in this country.

Against that the liquidators argued that everything they were asking for had the support of the trustee who knew of the application and was not opposing it. Furthermore they undertook to remit to the trustee the net proceeds of any recoveries in respect of certain assets that they might

succeed in obtaining. But, of course, they would remit the net proceeds having deducted the expenses to themselves of obtaining the proceeds.

That did not seem to his Lordship to be entirely satisfactory. If a trustee in bankruptcy realised assets of the bankrupt the trustee would be accountable to the creditors and, in some circumstances, to the bankrupt, for what had been done.

In the present case, if that were in dispute, the injury to creditors other than Focus would be minute and to Mr Hardy himself, in view of the figures, would probably be nil.

But it was for the trustee to get in the assets of the bankrupt's estate and not for some creditor, even if the trustee did not propose to liquidate the estate. That was implicit in the scheme prescribed by the 1986 Act for the administration of a bankrupt's estate and affairs by his trustee in bankruptcy.

There was no authority on the point, but the circumstances were, perhaps, peculiar to make that a matter of any surprise. It seemed to his Lordship that the inconsistency between what was now sought by the liquidators and the status of Focus as a creditor in an English bankruptcy did constitute good reason why he should not make the order sought.

There was, moreover, an element of oppression in that whatever order might be made obliging Mr Hardy to provide information, documents and so forth to the joint liquidators for the purposes of the Bermudian liquidation, Mr Hardy could be asked by the trustee in bankruptcy to repeat the process for the purposes of the English bankruptcy. It seemed oppressive that that should happen twice.

Accordingly, the case was not a case in which it would be proper for the court to provide the Bermudian court with the assistance it sought for the purpose for which it sought it.

The liquidators of Focus, having decided to pursue English bankruptcy as the means of getting in their assets, would, in his Lordship's judgment, then turn around and pursue remedies which were inconsistent with the bankruptcy that they had commenced. The application under section 426(4) of the 1986 Act would be dismissed.

Solicitors: D. J. Freeman.

Private person cannot enforce undertaking

Mid Kent Holdings plc v General Utilities Inc
Before Mr Justice Knox
[Judgment April 30]

A private person had no right of action under the Fair Trading Act 1973 or under the general law to bring proceedings to enforce undertakings given to the Secretary of State following a report by the Monopolies and Mergers Commission which concluded that a merger situation was likely to operate against an identified public interest.

It was not sufficient for a private person to show that damage had been caused to him by a breach of a statutory public duty. It had also to be shown that the relevant enactment was intended by Parliament to provide a civil remedy for the apprehended wrong to the person concerned.

Mr Justice Knox so held in the Chancery Division when dismissing an application of the plaintiffs, Mid Kent Holdings plc, by originating summons for a declaration that the defendants, General Utilities Inc, had been in breach of their undertakings given to the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry on March 21, 1991 when they entered into arrangements with SAUR Water Services for the purpose of making a joint bid to purchase the whole of the plaintiffs' issued share capital not already owned by them.

Mr Anthony Grabner, QC and Mr Stephen Morris for the plaintiffs; Mr Charles Falconer, QC and Mr Philip Brook Smith for the defendants.

MR JUSTICE KNOX said that in July 1990 the Monopolies and Mergers Commission made a report on the merger situation, which it concluded had been created between the plaintiffs and SAUR Water Co Ltd, a subsidiary of the plaintiffs.

The 1973 Act conferred wide powers on the Secretary of State to take action to counter the adverse effects against the public interest identified by the commission.

The enforcement provisions of the Act dealt with the two possible methods: first, by an order which

That conclusion was based in turn on the commission's conclusion that the defendants' holding of just under 30 per cent of the plaintiffs' issued share capital, into which the original holdings of shareholders in Mid Kent had been converted, gave the defendants the ability materially to influence the policy of Mid Kent within the meaning of section 65(3) of the 1973 Act.

The commission said that the merger situation might be expected to operate against the public interest in the water supply and a reduction in the number of water enterprises which were under independent control, which might be expected to prejudice the ability of the Director General of Water Services to carry out his statutory duty to make comparisons between different water enterprises.

The undertakings given by the defendants to the secretary of state required them to reduce their stake in Mid Kent to 19.5 per cent by June 30, 1992. That would bring the defendants' stake in line with that of SAUR, the next largest shareholder in Mid Kent.

The main event which had occurred and upon which reliance was placed as breaching the undertakings was the entry by the defendants and SAUR into a joint venture agreement.

His Lordship said that since he had decided that the plaintiffs did not have a sufficient private right to the declarations sought, it would be wrong for him to state his views as to whether there had been such breaches of undertakings as were relied on.

The 1973 Act conferred wide powers on the Secretary of State to take action to counter the adverse effects against the public interest identified by the commission.

The enforcement provisions of the Act dealt with the two possible methods: first, by an order which

the secretary of state had power to make had no undertaking been forthcoming; second, by accepting undertakings, which was what had happened in this case.

In regard to the enforcement of orders the scheme under section 93(1), (2) and (3) of the 1973 Act was that a breach could not lead to criminal proceedings, but other machinery was provided for the court, on the application of the secretary of state, to secure compliance.

So far as private persons were concerned there was nothing conferring a right of action upon them to secure compliance with an order. On the contrary, compliance was made enforceable by civil proceedings by the Crown and by inference not by others.

Section 93A of the 1973 Act, inserted by section 148 of the Companies Act 1989, and which dealt with the enforcement of undertakings, did not confer a wider right on any person to enforce an undertaking.

His Lordship said that it would be extraordinary for Parliament to confer a remedy for breach of an undertaking on a far wider basis than for the breach of an order.

It could hardly have been Parliament's intention that the whole population of the country should be entitled to bring civil proceedings to enforce a public duty in the absence of a statutory provision of a remedy by way of civil proceedings dependent on the general law rather than on the Act.

His Lordship considered, *inter alia*, *Cutter v Woodworth* [1978] AC 388, *London & North Western Railway v Inland Revenue Commissioners* [1991] 2 AC 370 and *R v Deputy Director of Public Prosecutions, ex parte Hughes* [1992] AC 58 and concluded that they

seemed to establish the following principles.

First, it was not enough for a plaintiff to show a breach of statutory public duty and damage thereby caused to the plaintiff, whether the claim was for damages, injunction or a declaration.

Second, it was always necessary where a private claim was brought in respect of a breach of statutory public duty to investigate how far the statutory provisions in question were intended to confer a private right of action.

Third, where a procedural remedy was provided by the statute, whether by way of criminal sanction or other particular procedure such as a civil action only to be brought by a minister or other public officer, that constituted an indication that it was that procedural remedy alone that was intended by Parliament to be available as a sanction.

The two exceptions to the third principle were:

1 Where the statutory provisions were enacted in order to provide protection for a class of persons, such as mineworkers or factory workers, and the breach of duty in question was one which would be likely to cause a member of the class intended to be protected economic loss or injury to either property or person, and

2 Where a public right was created by statute to be enjoyed generally by persons wishing to avail themselves of it, and damage peculiar to the plaintiff was suffered as a result of interference with that public right. A statutory prohibition of otherwise lawful conduct could not amount to the creation of such a public right.

In the instant case, the damage relied upon by the plaintiffs was the trouble and expense to which they would be exposed by a reference to the commission.

The statutory prohibitions which the undertakings were to be

treated as creating were imposed in order to avoid the particular detriment to the public interest identified by the commission in its report of July 1990, namely the reduction in the number of water enterprises under independent control so as to prejudice the ability of the director general to make comparisons between such enterprises.

That detriment was one which the public at large would suffer and was not available to the plaintiffs as damage particular to it. The time cost and inconvenience of an commission inquiry would constitute loss particular to the plaintiffs, but the undertakings were not accepted with a view to avoiding that type of detriment.

The undertakings did not confer and were never intended to confer on any person or class of persons an immunity from being involved in a commission inquiry.

It was clearly that no one could be more truly concerned with the fulfilment of the undertakings than the plaintiffs in the sense that a breach of the undertakings was quite capable of leading to loss and damage to them.

But damage plus breach were not of themselves sufficient to create a private right of action. There also needed to be evinced an intention by Parliament in the relevant enactment to provide a civil remedy for the particular wrong or apprehended wrong. That was missing here.

His Lordship found support for that conclusion in that there would otherwise be an undesirable potential for conflict between the secretary of state's discretion whether or not to take steps to enforce an undertaking and the private citizen's right to bring civil proceedings for the failure to fulfil undertakings.

Solicitors: Norton Rose; Simmons & Simmons.

Remedying breach of tenant's covenant

Savva and Another v Housleins
Before Lord Justice Staughton, Lord Justice Aldous and Sir John May
[Judgment April 24]

A tenant's breach of a negative covenant was capable of remedy for the purposes of section 146(1) of the Law of Property Act 1925 if the harm caused by the breach could be effectively remedied.

The Court of Appeal so held dismissing an appeal by the landlords, George and Amalia Savva, against the decision of Judge Cotnam at Central London County Court on November 1, 1994 to dismiss a claim for possession against the tenant, Kemal Housleins, for breaching covenants not to put up signs or make alterations to the property without consent, on the ground that the notice served on the tenant pursuant to section 146 of the 1925 Act was invalid as it referred to the breaches as being incapable of remedy.

Section 146 of the 1925 Act provides: "A right of re-entry or forfeiture under any proviso or stipulation in a lease for a breach of any covenant or condition in the lease shall not be enforceable... unless and until the lessor serves on the lessee a notice... (a) specifying the particular breach complained of, and (b) if the breach is capable of remedy, requiring the lessee to remedy the breach..."

Mr Neil Mendoza for the landlords; Mr David Lonsdale for the tenant.

LORD JUSTICE STAUGHTON said that the question was whether the tenant's breach of covenant, which amounted to doing things without the consent of the landlords, was capable of remedy.

It was established law in the Court of Appeal that breach of a covenant not to assign without consent could not be remedied: *Savva House and District Property Co Ltd v Forbes* [1974] QB 575.

However, in his Lordship's judgment, in any case other than a covenant not to assign without consent, breach of a covenant was capable of remedy. Of course,

where there were breaches of covenants not to do a particular thing it was not possible to restore the matter wholly to before the breach. However, there was a remedy if the mischief caused by the breach could be remedied.

If a covenant not to put up signs or make alterations without consent was breached the mischief could be remedied, if necessary, by removing the signs or restoring the property to its original condition.

The notice served by the landlords under section 146 should have required the breaches to be remedied and, as it had not done so, it was not valid.

LORD JUSTICE ALDOUS, agreeing, said that it followed that Mr Justice Mummery's statement in *Billson v Residential Apartments Ltd* [1992] 1 AC 493, 494 that "the breach of covenant committed by making the alterations in the property without... consent... was not capable of remedy" could not be supported.

In *Expert Clothing Service and Sales v Hillgate House Ltd* [1986] Ch 340, 339 Lord Justice Slade said: "If the section 146 notice had required the lessee to remedy the breach and the lessee had then allowed a reasonable time to elapse to enable the lessee fully to comply with the relevant covenant, would such compliance, coupled with the payment of any appropriate monetary compensation, have effectively remedied the harm which the lessors had suffered or were likely to suffer from the breach?"

It was only if the answer to that question was "No" that the breach was not capable of remedy.

In his Lordship's judgment, the question posed by Lord Justice Slade in relation to a positive covenant was relevant to the consideration of whether a negative covenant could be remedied. There was nothing in the 1925 Act, or in logic, which required the courts to differentiate between positive and negative covenants.

Sir John May agreed with both judgments.

Solicitors: Cornhill & Co, Bethnal Green; Johns & Sagar, Kentish Town.

Test for allowing supply of pharmaceutical services

Regina v Yorkshire Regional Health Authority, Ex parte Baker
Before Sir Louis Blom-Cooper, QC
[Judgment March 26]

The test for granting an application to supply pharmaceutical services did not create two distinct alternative methods for determining the adequacy of present provision since the words "necessary or desirable" in the statutory provisions were not to be construed disjunctively.

A body making a decision under section 42(2)(c) of the National Health Service Act 1977 and regulation 4(4) of the National Health Service (Pharmaceutical Services) Regulations (SI 1992 No 622) should first ask if the provision of pharmaceutical services was adequate and only address the question of the necessity or desirability of granting an application where that was in doubt.

Sir Louis Blom-Cooper, QC, sitting as a deputy High Court judge in the Queen's Bench Division, so held in dismissing the application of Patrick Baker for judicial review by way of certiorari to quash the decision of the Family Health Services Appeal Unit not to allow him to provide certain pharmaceutical services in Truro.

The applicant had applied to the Family Health Service Association (FHSA) in Truro for registration to supply certain pharmaceutical services to general medical practitioners, nurses and other health workers, and the FHSA granted the

application and the objectors appealed to the appeal unit, administered by Yorkshire Regional Health Authority.

Regulation 4(4) of the 1992 Regulations, made in substantially the same terms as section 42(2)(c) of the 1977 Act, provides: "(4) An application... shall be granted by the FHSA only if it is satisfied that it is necessary or desirable to grant the application in order to secure, in the neighbourhood in which the premises in which the services are located, the adequate provision... of the services... specified in the application."

Mr Andrew Hillier for Mr Baker; Mr Keith Freeman for the appeal unit; Mrs Jane Oldham for the objectors.

HIS LORDSHIP said that the primary focus of the decision maker's satisfaction was whether the services specified in the application were adequately provided.

The key to the meaning of section 42(2) and regulation 4 was adequacy. There was no need at that stage to ask whether it was necessary or desirable to secure those services if the decision maker was satisfied that there was in place adequate provision of the services in the neighbourhood.

Mr Hillier submitted that since the same objective, namely, to secure adequate provision of services, governed both the adequacy of the term "adequate" was to be given a different mean-

ing in the context of desirability to that given in the context of necessity.

HIS LORDSHIP rejected Mr Hillier's approach on the basis that it failed to take the whole phrase approach. The decision maker was to ask whether there was or was not adequate provision.

If the answer was wholly inadequate the conclusion would be the need to secure an adequate provision in the form of granting the application. If the answer was borderline then resort to desirability would be preferred to fill a possible, although not certain gap in the service provision.

Did that give sufficient distinction in regulation 4(4) to the words "necessary or desirable"? His Lordship thought it did.

HIS LORDSHIP differed from the view of Mr Justice Potts in *R v Humberide FHSA, Ex parte Moore and Others* (The Times January 8, 1996) that "necessary or desirable" had to be construed disjunctively.

Sense and meaning could be adequately accorded to regulation 4(4) in its entirety, by the decision maker applying a loose value judgment as to the adequacy of the service provision, employing, secondarily, the concepts of necessity and desirability in a fashion sufficient to supply the satisfaction to the decision maker that the application should be granted.

Solicitors: Coodes, Lisle, Miles, Lisle, Perrett, Harrogate; Charles Russell.

Disclosure of patent experiments

Electrolux Northern Ltd and Another v Black & Decker
Before Mr Justice Laddie
[Judgment April 25]

Disclosure by a party to a patent action, that he had conducted other experiments, on which he had chosen not to rely, should not normally lead a court to draw any inference as to what such experiments might have proved.

Mr Justice Laddie so held in the Patent Court in dismissing (i) an action by the first plaintiff, Electrolux Northern Ltd, registered proprietor of European Patent (UK) No 0,037,871, and by the exclusive licensee, Electrolux Outdoor Products Ltd, claiming infringement of that patent by the defendant, Black & Decker, and (ii) a counterclaim by the defendant for revocation of the patent on the ground of obviousness.

In *Honeywell Ltd v Appliance Components Ltd* (unreported, February 22, 1996), Mr Justice Jacob in the Patent Court had said: "I think it highly desirable in future, if experiments are conducted which are not relied upon, the other party is told of this... it can hardly be right that a party can put forward an argument (whether supported by experiments or not) and suppress experiments he has conducted which do not support that argument or indeed undermine or destroy it. I do not say that experiments not relied upon should be placed before the court. But the opposite party should know about them..."

Mr Christopher Floyd, QC and

Mr Iain Purvis for the plaintiffs; Mr Antony Watson, QC and Mr Daniel Alexander for the defendant.

MR JUSTICE LADDIE said that his system proceeded on the basis that each party put before the court the material which it believed supported its case or undermined its opponent's.

Even if advised that its case was weak, no party was obliged to call witnesses, whether of fact or of expertise, hostile to it. Experiments in patent actions should be considered against that background.

In many cases, this was one such, many experiments failed to support the propositions for which they were advanced or were shown to have no probative value either way.

Frequently, experiments were discarded for a variety of reasons: for example, "not clear enough", "experimental technique too vulnerable", a "better or simpler way of proving the point", "appear to support the other side's case and it would take much complicated evidence to prove such appearance was misleading", or "the experiments would make a dreadful witness".

Since the courts would penalise reliance on unnecessary experiments (see *Pall Corporation v Commercial Hydraulics (Bedford) Ltd* [1993] FSR 329) were both sides penalised, all the experiments being held valueless? It was the lawyers' duty to advise clients to justify any experiment which was not clearly necessary to the case. So it would be wrong for the court to infer that withdrawal of an

experiment proved the other side's case or was damaging to its own. So what would be the result of forcing the withdrawal to disclose the abandoned experiment?

In the passion of litigation, the other side could lose little by applying for full disclosure, putting the withdrawal in a dustbin. In his Lordship's judgment, then turn around and pursue remedies which were inconsistent with the bankruptcy that they had commenced. The application under section 426(4) of the 1986 Act would be dismissed.

Section 146 of the 1925 Act provides: "A right of re-entry or forfeiture under any proviso or stipulation in a lease for a breach of any covenant or condition in the lease shall not be enforceable... unless and until the lessor serves on the lessee a notice... (a) specifying the particular breach complained of, and (b) if the breach is capable of remedy, requiring the lessee to remedy the breach..."

Mr Neil Mendoza for the landlords; Mr David Lonsdale for the tenant.

LORD JUSTICE STAUGHTON said that the question was whether the tenant's breach of covenant, which amounted to doing things without the consent of the landlords, was capable of remedy.

It was established law in the Court of Appeal that breach of a covenant not to assign without consent could not be remedied: *Savva House and District Property Co Ltd v Forbes* [1974] QB 575.

However, in his Lordship's judgment, in any case other than a covenant not to assign without consent, breach of a covenant was capable of remedy. Of course,

where there were breaches of covenants not to do a particular thing it was not possible to restore the matter wholly to before the breach. However, there was a remedy if the mischief caused by the breach could be remedied.

If a covenant not to put up signs or make alterations without consent was breached the mischief could be remedied, if necessary, by removing the signs or restoring the property to its original condition.

The notice served by the landlords under section 146 should have required the breaches to be remedied and, as it had not done so, it was not valid.

LORD JUSTICE ALDOUS, agreeing, said that it followed that Mr Justice Mummery's statement in *Billson v Residential Apartments Ltd* [1992] 1 AC 493, 494 that "the breach of covenant committed by making the alterations in the property without... consent... was not capable of remedy" could not be supported.

In *Expert Clothing Service and Sales v Hillgate House Ltd* [1986] Ch 340, 339 Lord Justice Slade said: "If the section 146 notice had required the lessee to remedy the breach and the lessee had then allowed a reasonable time to elapse to enable the lessee fully to comply with the relevant covenant, would such compliance, coupled with the payment of any appropriate monetary compensation, have effectively remedied the harm which the lessors had suffered or were likely to suffer from the breach?"

It was only if the answer to that question was "No" that the breach was not capable of remedy.

In his Lordship's judgment, the question posed by Lord Justice Slade in relation to a positive covenant was relevant to the consideration of whether a negative covenant could be remedied. There was nothing in the 1925 Act, or in logic, which required the courts to differentiate between positive and negative covenants.

Sir John May agreed with both judgments.

Solicitors: Cornhill & Co, Bethnal Green; Johns & Sagar, Kentish Town.

European Law Report

Insurers might recover against drunken drivers

Criminal proceedings against Bernádez
Case C-129/94.

Before D. A. O. Edward, President of the Fifth Chamber and Judges J. P. Pouschert, J. C. Molitor, A. Almeida, L. Sevón and M. Wathelet.

Advocate General C. O. Lenz (Opinion January 25) [Judgment March 28]

Except in circumstances specified in a Community directive, a compulsory insurance contract could not provide that in certain cases, in particular where the driver of a vehicle was intoxicated, the insurer was not obliged to pay compensation for damage to property and personal injuries caused to third parties by the insured vehicle.

It could, however, provide that in such cases the insurer was to have a right of recovery against the insured.

The Court of Justice of the European Communities (Fifth Chamber) so held on a reference for a preliminary ruling under article 177 of the EC Treaty by the Audiencia Provincial de Sevilla (Seville Provincial Court, Spain, by order of April 4, 1994).

In criminal proceedings against him the defendant, Rafael Ruiz Bernádez, who had caused a road accident while driving, was made intoxicated, was ordered to make reparation for the damage to property he had caused.

However, the insurance company, with which the defendant had taken out a policy covering damage caused by his vehicle, was

absolved from liability to pay compensation, on the basis of a Spanish law which excluded from cover damage to property caused where the driver was intoxicated.

Questions were referred on the interpretation of provisions of Council Directive 72/166/EEC of April 24, 1972 on the approximation of the laws of the member states relating to insurance against civil liability in respect of the use of motor vehicles, and to the enforcement of the obligation to insure against such liability (OJ, English Special Edition 1972 (II), p.369) (the first directive), and Council Directive 84/5/EEC of December 30, 1983 (OJ 1984 L8, p.17) (the second directive) and 90/232/EEC of May 14, 1990 (OJ 1990 L129, p.33) (the third directive), the second and third directives being on the approximation of the laws of the member states relating to insurance against civil liability in respect of the use of motor vehicles.

In its judgment the Fifth Chamber of the Court of Justice held that the Preamble to the directives showed that their aim was, first, to ensure that vehicles normally based on Community territory and of persons travelling in those vehicles, and, second, to guarantee that the victims of accidents caused by these vehicles received comparable treatment irrespective of where in the Community the accident had occurred.

For that purpose the first directive, having regard to the agreement between the national insurers' bureaux, established a

system based on the presumption that vehicles normally based on Community territory were covered by insurance.

Article 3(1) of that directive thus provided that member states were, subject to the derogations in article 4, to take all appropriate measures to ensure that civil liability in respect of the use of vehicles was covered by insurance.

While football supporters wake up this morning with hangovers after last night's celebrations or commiserations, the financial headache is only just beginning for the clubs themselves.

For those caught in the relegation or promotion battle, defeat or victory in yesterday's final game could mean the difference between revenues halving or doubling next season.

A whole new ball game starts with final whistle

Graham, widely seen as the first choice of Ken Bates, the chairman, could result in the exit of Matthew Harding, the vice-chairman, whose cash has been so vital to reviving the club, and the shares could fall below the float price of 55p.

Manchester United will begin the seemingly easy task of counting the pennies after another successful year. The club's shares already sit near the all-time high of 385p after the City concluded a week ago that the club would win the championship.

The championship is worth at least £5 million, thanks to the television rights and other deals included in the Champions league. However, over a season, United could double that figure with more glamour matches bringing extra crowds in, greater television exposure facilitating more lucrative kit deals and sponsorship and even increased season ticket prices. The extra money can go

straight into the profit column, or on the next £8 million strike.

Tottenham Hotspur is likely to see its shares tumble from their high of 373p after the City's gamble that the club would benefit from several million pounds of revenue from European competition backfired with the victory yesterday of Arsenal.

In contrast, relegation is a finance director's nightmare. The club must judge whether to tighten the belt or splash out, gambling on a quick revival. The wrong decision can lead to long-term decline.

For Bolton, QPR and Manchester City, all relegated to the Premier Division, the cost may reach £4 million each, about half of the turnover of those clubs. The most obvious loss is television revenue from Sky, although the blow has been softened this year by a new Sky deal with the Endersleigh First Division worth between £750,000 and

£1.2 million. In addition, relegated clubs enjoy a £430,000-a-year cushion for two years and so they may even find themselves a little better off in terms of television revenue next season. However, Sky is rumoured to be negotiating a new deal with the Premier Division, worth £5 million per club that would quickly put the Endersleigh offer in perspective.

The impact on attendances and merchandise depends largely on whether the clubs can keep their squads together and launch a promotion campaign, although Barnsley on a wet November night is never going to be as big a draw as Manchester United. If attendances and prices drop to the First Division average, the clubs could lose about £2 million in revenue.

The only chance for cost-saving will be wages, which, at an average of £1,500 a week, are just under half

the average paid to a Premiership footballer. However, the ability to cut wages depends on the number of players out of contracts, and clubs such as QPR have expressed a determination to hold onto their expensive players by continuing to pay Premiership wages. The temptation to sell quality players, to cover the financial gaps, will be strong for all the relegated clubs.

It is the clubs relegated to the Second Division, Luton, Watford and Stock Exchange-owned Millwall, that face the bleakest outlook. The new Sky-Endersleigh agreement has set aside only 15 per cent of the cash pool for the Second Division, and Luton stands to lose up to £1 million in television money next season for its failings on the field. Unlike the arrangements for Premiership clubs, there is no cash cushion for their fall.

Equally, few Second Division clubs have big followings, and attendances will suffer. The impact of losing about £2 million in revenue on already loss-making clubs is potentially devastating. Millwall shares are destined to stay in the doldrums at a year low of 25p.

ALASDAIR MURRAY

The garden of remembrance

Dear Diary, Radio 4 (FM), 10.00am.

The gardening year is the unifying theme in this sequence of snippets from the diaries of the famous, and of lesser mortals. Virginia Woolf notes the gladioli standing in troops, and examines the chocolate earth under her fingernails. Gill White, the naturalist, wonders at the caterpillars tying together the foliage of the apricots with their webs. John Ruskin, surveying his rain-soaked garden, bemoans the way his roses are purifying into brown sponges. The Nicholsonians, at Shillinghurst, fall out over whether flowered stalks five should take precedence over considerations of symmetry. Because of its eclectic nature, *Dear Diary* could run for ever. There would be no complaints from me if it did.

Foot off the Pedal, Radio 4, 11.30am

In one sense only, Kevin Jackson is in the driver's seat for this diverting feature about a rapidly disappearing species, the non-motorist. He presents it. Although he passed his driving test at the third go, he is pleased to announce that he is not a vehicular criminal, having enlisted in "The noble infantry of footsore heroes". So have the critic and novelist Mark Lawson and David Attenborough from whom we hear today, and Samuel Beckett and Andrew Lloyd Webber, from whom we do not hear. I cannot argue with Kevin Jackson's reasoning that if God had intended us all to drive, He would not have invented black cabs.

Peter Daville

Cast off in a material world

Carl Mortished on why Coats Viyella has cut its cloth according to overseas costs



Neville Bain, of Coats, with M&S shirts, some of which may now be made in Indonesia instead of Merseyside

On Friday, workers at the Coats Viyella factory in Rainhill, Merseyside, picked their notices up off the floor of a Portakabin outside the plant. The envelopes had been left in little piles by a management anxious to close the door at 1pm sharp. For Pat Donoghue and Lisa Kelly, it was the final humiliation. "People had to grovel on the floor to pick up their notices. They didn't have the decency to hand them to us," said one of the workers.

The factory at Rainhill produced shirts for Marks & Spencer but there has been no work since April 10, when the staff heard from the managing director that the plant was to close. All work would be transferred to Coats Viyella factories in Mauritius and Indonesia, where local workers will produce the same shirts for less than half the wages paid at Rainhill.

Some 400 people worked at Rainhill, earning an average of £150 to £160 a week for piecework. They must wait to learn what kind of redundancy terms will be offered by Coats Viyella, whose chief executive is Neville Bain. A 90-day consultancy procedure

started in April with the GMB Union but the workers do not want money. They want jobs back and the plant to be kept open, by Coats or another company. According to Maureen Marston, the GMB's regional officer, whole fam-

ilies worked at Rainhill, which last year won the *Investors in People Award*. She said: "The workers were terribly distressed. They could not believe it. They have had excellent industrial relations."

On Saturday, Ms Donoghue and Ms Kelly and about 40 other Rainhill workers travelled to London to spend an afternoon handing leaflets to shoppers outside M&S's flagship store at Marble Arch. The workers have no quarrel with M&S but they want the nation's biggest clothing retailer to use its influence to save Rainhill, saying it has a responsibility to support UK clothing jobs.

or British retailers who imported £11 billion of clothing last year. Foreign imports are growing steadily and the process will accelerate. Clothing and textile imports are regulated by the Multi Fibre Arrangement, a special agreement establishing a system of quotas limiting the volume of textile goods imported from developing countries. But pressure from those countries for a better deal means that the MFA is being unwound over a ten-year period. By 2005, the quotas will disappear, allowing overseas manufacturers free access to the UK.

Since 1981, employment in the textile and apparel industry has plunged from more than 600,000 to about 380,000, and the spring results season was scarred by profit warnings from textile manufacturers accompanied by noises about investment offshore.

Coats Viyella is setting aside £50 million to pay for a restructuring involving the loss of 2,700 jobs worldwide. In March, Claremont Garments, which supplies lingerie to M&S, announced that it was cutting 500 jobs and at the same time signing a joint venture agreement for a plant in Morocco. Last week, Courtaulds Textiles gave warning that offshore manufacturing would be increased. Lord Jervis, chief executive of Courtaulds Textiles, said that concerns about imports were not the immediate reason for going offshore. "The driving forces are several. Textile inflation is only 1.5 per cent but there has been a huge increase in raw material prices. The biggest opportunity to reduce our costs is lower-cost manufacturing."

The pressure is also on retailers as they battle for custom. A fashion retailer, such as M&S, will not price a shirt on the basis of its cost plus a retailing margin. It will look at competitive prices from rivals and decide on a price point. The manufacturer will then be asked to produce the right shirt at a cost that will satisfy the retailer.

For the workers at Rainhill, it is difficult to see who to blame. The employers, the retailers or the Government for a low-growth, low inflation economy? Coats Viyella says that the factory has been losing money for years, a situation that was probably known to M&S, who will have been closely consulted about the move to Mauritius. The retail giant is the largest supporter of the British textile industry and wishes to remain so. Its spokesman explained: "For a long time, we have been building up partnership arrangements, we are purchasing production, rather than purchasing goods."

This time, it would seem, that partnership can no longer include the British workforce at Rainhill.

ROYAL ASCOT



The first race is to get your ticket

Give yourself a well deserved break with a day at Royal Ascot this year.

It's an occasion every bit as exciting as the racing and you'll be part of a spectacle that has no equal.

Starting with the Royal Procession. It's held daily and reflects a Royal heritage dating back to 1711 when Queen Anne ordered a course to be laid out "for horses to gallop at full stretch".

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Australia \$	1.99	1.83
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France Fr	2.16	1.98
Germany DM	0.78	0.68
Italy Lira	9.46	8.58
Japan Yen	7.75	7.14
Netherlands Gld	6.17	5.62
Portugal Esc	204.80	187.00
Spain Ptas	166.37	150.00
Sweden Kr	10.46	9.56
Switzerland Fr	2.00	1.82
Turkey Lira	17.25	15.00
USA \$	1.00	1.47

Rates for small denomination bank notes only as supplied by Barclay Bank PLC. Different rates apply to travellers' cheques. Rates as at close of trading on Friday.

WORD-WATCHING

Answers from page 29

NEOLITH (a) A person belonging to the later Stone Age. From the Greek *neos* = "new" + *lithos* = "stone". The neoliths were unacquainted with the use of metal, but they employed weapons and implements of stone, carefully ground and polished.

PITYRIASIS (b) A condition of the skin characterised by the formation and falling off of irregular patches of small bran-like scales without inflammation (the dis-eased) formation of dandruff or scurf. From the Greek *pituros* = "bran". In the lighter forms of pityriasis, the cuticle alone appears to be in a morbid condition.

PERISOL (c) Those who dwell within the polar circles, whose shadows revolve around them as the sun moves around the heavens on a summer day. From the Greek *peris* = "around" + *sol* = "sun". Perisols are such as dwell beyond the Polar Circle because their shadows are on all sides of them.

PONDUS (d) A weight, chiefly figuratively, power to influence or bias, moral force. From the Latin *pondus* = "weight", formerly often used in English context. "As reasonable, as that a greater Power should sustain a greater Pondus, or take off more of the Pressure of the same Pondus."

SOLUTION TO WINNING CHESS MOVE

1 Queen's f2h2 2 Bgh mate.

RADIO CHOICE

<p>5.55am Shopping Forecast (LW only) 6.00am News, Building 6.10am From tonight 6.25 Play for the 10.6.30 Prize and 7.00am 6.25 Sport 7.45 Thought for the Day 8.40 Beyond the Millennium (LW) 8.58 Weather</p> <p>9.00 News 9.15 Start the Week 9.58 Weather: <i>quintessence</i> <i>Ngugi</i> <i>Lizeman</i>, <i>Paul</i> <i>Benjamin</i> <i>Marlowe</i> <i>Paul</i> <i>Benjamin</i> and <i>McBry</i></p> <p>10.00 News 10.05 Diary 10.15 <i>McBry</i> <i>McBry</i> <i>McBry</i> <i>McBry</i> <i>McBry</i> <i>McBry</i> <i>McBry</i> <i>McBry</i> <i>McBry</i> <i>McBry</i> <i>McBry</i> <i>McBry</i> <i>McBry</i> <i>McBry</i> <i>McBry</i> <i>McBry</i> <i>McBry</i> <i>McBry</i> <i>McBry</i> <i>McBry</i> <i>McBry</i> <i>McBry</i> <i>McBry</i> <i>McBry</i> <i>McBry</i> <i>McBry</i> <i>McBry</i> <i>McBry</i> <i>McBry</i> <i>McBry</i> <i>McBry</i> <i>McBry</i> <i>McBry</i> <i>McBry</i> <i>McBry</i> <i>McBry</i> <i>McBry</i> <i>McBry</i> <i>McBry</i> <i>McBry</i> <i>McBry</i> <i>McBry</i> <i>McBry</i> <i>McBry</i> 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At this point, imagining becomes visible

The image of a brain scan is an amazing thing, and when it shows explosions of colour off-centre, it resembles an aerial view of a city bombed by night. Poring over such maps of brain activity in Channel 4's fascinating *Music and the Mind* last night, an experimental neurologist explained the significance of the seemingly random lights. This brain was listening to music, and two things happened. Predictably, an intense glow mushroomed in the area connected with the ability to hear another bang went off in the visual cortex as well. What did this mean? Actually, the significance was staggering. It meant that for the first time, the imagination had been proved to exist. Samuel Taylor Coleridge, wherever he is, must be a very smug chap today.

But the next sequence was even better. For next came the resultant brain activity when a person

simply imagined. The same maps of precision bombing were to be seen. "The impact is slightly less pronounced," said the neurologist (I'm paraphrasing). "But then, of course, there is no outside stimulus here. This is an entirely internal event." Good heavens. We were looking at the patterns produced in the brain by an *entirely internal* event. It was like looking into the mind of God! It was like — well, it was like watching *Karaoke*!

Oh God, we groan, not *Karaoke* (BBC1)! Well yes, I'm afraid so. Two more parts to go. It may be the equivalent of shuffling somebody else's brain scans in a deck, but it's a major broadcasting event nevertheless. Dennis Potter's last scripts have been treated with obsequious niceness by his solemnly entrusted executors; but personally I'm not sure the cunning plan has done his memory any favours. Without *Karaoke* and *Cold Lazarus* to contend with,

there would surely have been a retrospective season by now, and we'd all be saying what a great playwright he was. Instead, these lacklustre scripts (probably unfinished) are coated, page after page, with liquid money, in the hope that mere expenditure will make them shine. Sadly, however, the main interest is watching the eyes swivel in the heads of Richard E. Grant and Anna Chancellor. Still breathless from the honour of being cast, they now flounder, strain and gasp so horribly that it would be a kindness, surely, to bash them on the head.

But there were some absorbing scenes last night. Albert Finney's face-to-face with Saffron Burrows (the object of his desire) was touching and expansive, and contained one truly great moment: "You like gardens?" the chirrupy-leggy-cockney girl asked him, as they made their way, by

REVIEW



Lynne Truss

moonlight, down a metal fire escape into a fantasy hospital courtyard. "I like the word garden," he admitted, thoughtfully.

But for every poetic moment of that sort, there is a clunking spoonerism from Roy Hudd so embarrassing that it makes you look at the floor and fight the impulse to burst into tears. "Not a surse in night!" he blusters, game-

ly, in a wide-striped suit that makes him look like a freshly-pierced wall. It's terrible. I have some American friends who say "unbelievable" as two words — "Un. Believable". These lines of Hudd's ("Comebody's summing!") are just Un. Simply Un. And the effect is surely deliberate. Quite defiantly, in fact, these are not lines for an actor to speak; like everything else in *Karaoke*, they are typed words on a page, a self-indulgent script so insistently written that it continually displaces the coloured, expensive flim-flam on the screen.

Back in the world of naturalistic drama, however, things are different but not necessarily better. Consider *No Bananas* on BBC1. None of your la-di-da meta-fictional nonsense here: not at 7.15 on a Sunday night. The characters in *No Bananas* are neither real nor imagined in any organised way: basically, it's war, and you

take what you can get. Thus, the posh Hamiltons (nice bit of casting for Alison Steadman) inhabit what looks like a real house, while the poor but honest Slaters live in a terrace of tiny houses which looks like a set.

I say, with caution, that it looks like a set, because I was wrong about the urban terrace in Channel 4's *And the Beat Goes On*, which turned out to be a real street so flatly lit that you looked for the tell-tale fingerprints of the blokes holding it up from behind. I don't know why I'm dwelling on this, but I learned last night that when the composer Ravel was accused of artifice, he explained he couldn't help it, he was "naturally artificial". It sounds like *No Bananas*.

No Bananas needs a chance to get going. In the meantime, the unmissable programme on Sundays is Andrew Graham-Dixon's

A History of British Art (BBC2). Refreshingly bold, affectionate and informative, this intelligent series is the *Civilisation* of its day — and if such a sound-bite assessment is uncharacteristic, the habit may be catching. Graham-Dixon never baulks at superlatives. "The greatest collaborative work of art of the 18th century," he called Stowe last night; Hogarth was "the blackest imagination", and so on.

But he reserved his highest praise for Stubbs, a "quiet revolutionary" who didn't just paint horses: he painted "what it means to be alive". Graham-Dixon denotes your brain scan like nobody's business. "Stubbs knew we are all just bodies, and we are finally all alone," he said, before walking away from the camera, looking lonely. It's true, that's exactly what great art knows. And, flawed though *Karaoke* may be, that's what Dennis Potter knew better than anyone.

BBC1

7.00am News (Ceelex) (4576410) 7.10 *Stinky Bill* (r) (3444506) 7.35 Favourite Songs (r) (s) (4025322)

8.00 News (Ceelex) (3614612)

8.10 *Peter Pan and the Pirates* (r) (Ceelex) (4) (4217187) 8.35 Teenage Mutant Hero Turtles (r) (Ceelex) (3001322) 9.00 News (Ceelex) (4585058) 9.05 *Mighty Max* (r) (479430) 9.25 *Blue Peter* (r) (Ceelex) (s) (788131) 9.50 *Write and Cuddles* (r) (2444612) 10.00 Playdays (r) (s) (2421761)

10.25 *Film: Jetsons — The Movie* (1990). A Hanna-Barbera animation (Ceelex) (s) (7067419)

11.40 *Pudge-a-Mania*. American family comedy (Ceelex) (2587186)

1.10pm News (Ceelex) (5862896) 1.20 Regional News (59497419)

1.25 *Neighbours* (r) (s) (55249631)

1.45 *Cartoon* (1995) (322)

1.55 *Film: Scary of the Night* (1994) with Bobby Driscoll. A horror comedy. A young man who takes part in one more robbery. *Raul* (Ceelex) (2587186)

3.30 *Film: The King and I* (1956) with Yul Brynner and Deborah Kerr. Musical about an English governess in 19th-century Siam. Directed by Walter Lang (Ceelex) (s) (1865494)

5.00 *Neighbours* (r) (Ceelex) (s) (389235)

5.40 News (Ceelex) and weather (227457)

5.15 Regional News and weather (758902)

5.20 *Film: Batteries Not Included* (1987) with Jessica Tandy, Elizabeth Pena and Hume Cronyn. Charming fantasy from Steven Spielberg about a group of New York tenement dwellers who face eviction from their crumbling building by an unscrupulous property developer. Help comes in the shape of two tiny aliens from outer space. Directed by Matthew Robbins (Ceelex) (s) (1476449)

6.00 *EastEnders* (Ceelex) Pauline returns home reeling from recent events (2341)

6.30 *The Liver Birds*. Carla Lane's original Liver Birds. Beryl and Sandra, reunited (Ceelex) (s) (8148)

9.00 *Lord of Mischief*. Political comedy drama written by Guy Jenkin (Ceelex) (s) (3815)

10.30 News (Ceelex) regional news and weather (54777)

10.55 *Film: The Hard Way* (1991) with Michael J. Fox and James Woods. Pampered movie star Nick Lang is desperate to land the lead role in a new police thriller. Unfortunately, Mel Gibson is also up for the part. Lang, ever professional, jumps in at the deep end and decides to team up with tough lawman. Directed by John Badham (Ceelex) (s) (336018)

12.40am *Film: Girl on a Motor Cycle* (1968) with Marianne Faithfull and Alain Delon. Aka *Naked Under Leather*. This erotic cult classic is about a woman, already bored by her two-month marriage to a teacher, who dons her leathers and heads off to visit her lover. Phen what a boorcher (all the time). *Jack Cardiff* directs (Ceelex) (2225552) 2.10 *Weather* (3420552)

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BBC2

6.00am Open University: Physics (7468728) 6.25 *The Morning Wood from the Trees* (7465235) 6.50 *Silver* (5498728)

7.15 *See Hear Breakfast News* (Ceelex and signing) (4895544)

7.25 *Film: It's a Gift* (1934). A slapstick comedy with W.C. Fields, at a loss in a Californian orange grove. Directed by Norman Z. McLeod (1321273)

8.30 *Thomas Hart Benton*. A documentary portrait of the American artist (8921815)

9.55 *Film: The Strawberry Blonde* (1941, b/w). Romantic comedy with James Cagney, Olivia de Havilland and Rita Hayworth. Directed by Raoul Walsh (94123761)

11.30 *Film: Colorado Territory* (1949, b/w) with Joel McCrea, Virginia Mayo and Dorothy Malone. An infamous outlaw is persuaded by the leader of his old gang to take part in one more robbery. *Raul* (Ceelex) (2587186)

1.00pm *San Marino Grand Prix* (r) (s) (3556083)

1.50 *World Championship Snooker*. Coverage of the third of the four sessions, best-of-35-frames final from the Crucible, Sheffield (s) (27301877). NB: subsequent programmes may run late

5.35 *Winners and Losers: The Lost Wilderness*. The second of a two-part documentary about the filmmaker Eugene Schuyler's quest to find the rarest creatures on earth before they become extinct (Ceelex) (s) (844308)

6.00 *Neighbours* (r) (Ceelex) (s) (389235)

6.40 News (Ceelex) and weather (227457)

6.15 Regional News and weather (758902)

6.20 *Film: Batteries Not Included* (1987) with Jessica Tandy, Elizabeth Pena and Hume Cronyn. Charming fantasy from Steven Spielberg about a group of New York tenement dwellers who face eviction from their crumbling building by an unscrupulous property developer. Help comes in the shape of two tiny aliens from outer space. Directed by Matthew Robbins (Ceelex) (s) (1476449)

6.00 *EastEnders* (Ceelex) Pauline returns home reeling from recent events (2341)

6.30 *The Liver Birds*. Carla Lane's original Liver Birds. Beryl and Sandra, reunited (Ceelex) (s) (8148)

9.00 *Lord of Mischief*. Political comedy drama written by Guy Jenkin (Ceelex) (s) (3815)

10.30 News (Ceelex) regional news and weather (54777)

10.55 *Film: The Hard Way* (1991) with Michael J. Fox and James Woods. Pampered movie star Nick Lang is desperate to land the lead role in a new police thriller. Unfortunately, Mel Gibson is also up for the part. Lang, ever professional, jumps in at the deep end and decides to team up with tough lawman. Directed by John Badham (Ceelex) (s) (336018)

12.40am *Film: Girl on a Motor Cycle* (1968) with Marianne Faithfull and Alain Delon. Aka *Naked Under Leather*. This erotic cult classic is about a woman, already bored by her two-month marriage to a teacher, who dons her leathers and heads off to visit her lover. Phen what a boorcher (all the time). *Jack Cardiff* directs (Ceelex) (2225552) 2.10 *Weather* (3420552)

VideoPlus+ and the Video PlusCodes

The numbers next to each TV programme listing are Video PlusCodes, numbers which allow you to programme your video recorder to record a programme. Tap in the Video PlusCode for the programme you wish to record. VideoPlus+ (TM), PlusCodes and Video Programme are trademarks of Gemstar Development Ltd.

CHOICE

The Liver Birds (BBC1, 9.00pm)

Afficionados of the earlier series may ponder the wisdom of disintering fond memories of spoils Sandra (Nerys Hughes) and Beryl (Pollyanna), Carla Lane's heroines were very much of their time (early 1970s) and place (brash "new" Liverpool) and the two actresses were young enough to reflect their vulnerability. But now? Well, Ms Lane perhaps wisely — has scaled down the gags and shaded her characters with autumnal colours. "I am fat, I am fat!" intones Sandra in her "slimline" class. Then she suddenly recognises Beryl who is looking for an "encounter group" — all good 1990s stuff. Beryl promptly moves into the house Sandra shares, her caravanserai snob of a mother (Mollie Sugden) and the first episode rattles over the "girls' life stories in the intervening years — most, alas, not the stuff their dreams were made of.

Rescue: Out of the Blue (Channel 4, 9.00pm)

On one level this series succeeds because so many of us secretly relish shock-horror stories as long as we are not involved. On another it is a salutary study of how the emergency services cope with major disasters and what they learn for fall to learn from them. Tonight's subject is a comparative rarity: planes which appear to drop straight down on us without warning. Citing the BEA Trident which hit the ground near Staines in 1972 the programme, with its usual telling archive film and eye-witness accounts, compares the behaviour of the crowds then (ghoulish and manic, bringing traffic, including the emergency services, to gridlock) with crowd behaviour in 1999 when a Boeing 737 struffed on the M1. Motorists left their cars, rolled up their sleeves and helped the emergency services to save lives. Disaster manuals have now been rewritten with crowd psychology a top priority.

Lord of Mischief (BBC1, 9.00pm)

Guy Jenkin's comedy drama combines farce, politics and pathos in equal measure and is not to be missed. Richard Wilson plays Bill Webster, a raunchy, long-reired Lord Chancellor whose memoirs could bring down the Government if the *juicier bits* were published. He is bitter about being booted out of his job by a younger, more modern politician, and angry about not having virtually both feet in the grave. "Trouble with being old nearly everyone in your dreams is dead." One who is not is his former mistress Shirley (Prunella Scales) pressed by the glibly PM (James Frawley) to go to the West Country and charm him — or buy him — out of publishing. But challenging her is a tabloid journalist (Stephen Moyer) whose paper can easily afford the £500,000 Webster needs to shore up his lovely, decaying home. Set against an indecently bizarre pagan carnival, this is heady stuff.

An Inspector Calls: Car Capers (Channel 4, 9.30pm)

Twenty-five million cars are insured in Britain, one is stolen every second and one is involved in an accident every 15 minutes. (How do they get such statistics?) John Pinner's sideways-on series inspects the insurance inspectors — including one lone woman, the *Inspector* (Jenny Agutter) who is no mean detective. We watch her demolishing the claims of a certain nightclub bouncer for his "sleazy" vehicle — "I do feel a sense of satisfaction over fraudulent claims" — and following up a missing Nissan Sunny which has already been written off by another insurance company. Elizabeth Cowley

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THEY THINK IT'S
ALL OVER BUT
IT'S JUST BEGUN

BUSINESS

MONDAY MAY 6 1996

JOB CUTS AS THE
CLOTHING INDUSTRY
CHANGES SHAPE

BUSINESS EDITOR LINDSAY COOK

Nolan report expected to give Tecs a clean bill of health

By Philip Bassett
Industrial Editor

BRITAIN'S business-led training and enterprise councils (Tecs), which run industrial training in the UK, are expected to win the broad approval of the Government's independent Nolan Committee on Standards in Public Life.

The committee, chaired by Lord Nolan, will report shortly on its investigations of a range of local bodies, and its findings

are expected to give a largely clean bill of health to the Tecs.

Lord Nolan, whose first report, on MPs and Parliament, reflected widespread criticism of sleaze and led to reforms of Parliament's operation, is examining a range of local bodies, including housing associations and grant-maintained schools, as well as Tecs, whose total current public spending amounts to £15 billion. The report is expected at the end of next week or early the week after. He is

expected to criticise some local bodies, especially over accountability, after examining both upward financial accountability to Whitehall and Parliament and downward accountability to the local communities in which they work, but will largely support the Tecs.

The committee is expected to support the Tecs' own framework document on their local accountability. This document, which goes further than the rules laid down in the Tecs' operating contracts

with the Government, puts forward a range of detailed proposals for Tecs and the business leaders on their boards, aimed at increasing openness, integrity and accountability. Lord Nolan is believed to recommend in his report that all English and Welsh Tecs should implement the proposals in the framework document.

The committee is likely to reject, for Tecs and the other local bodies it has examined, the idea of payment for people

serving on the organisations, and to recommend the maintenance of independent appointments to them.

But Lord Nolan will also recommend a time limit for Tec directors of four years — a year more than Tecs sought — and will urge the adoption of a right of removal of directors if necessary. He will also give warning against conflicts of interest for business leaders between Tec board membership and the operations of their own businesses locally.

The committee is understood to have considered but rejected two more controversial proposals. First, the introduction of a regulator for the Tecs, along the lines of the system of utility regulators, and second, the idea of a national adjudicator, or ombudsman-style figure, on Tec issues. Tec leaders are likely to welcome Lord Nolan's recommendations and will say that they are already practising many of the committee's suggestions.

Lloyd's names to be thrown £1.2bn lifeline

By Sarah Bagnall

LOYD'S of London, the insurance market standing on the brink of collapse, is set to secure its survival with news of a surprise £1.2 billion boost for names.

According to high-level sources within Lloyd's, the insurance market's 34,000 names are to have their debts to the society cut sharply.

Those names who should benefit are the "honourable" names who have paid their losses as required, the market's highest-hit names who have won legal actions and those who have legal actions pending against accountancy firms.

Furthermore, about 1,000 names are likely to join the existing 5,000 people owed money by Lloyd's.

The reduction of more than £1.2 billion partly reflects an estimated £400 million of extra funds that Lloyd's has managed to raise from various sources to bolster its £2.8 billion settlement offer. However, the main benefit is an unexpectedly sharp drop of £900 million in the amount of

money names have to pay to Equitas, a new reinsurance company.

Earlier this year, Lloyd's forecast that the Department of Trade and Industry would require names to pay £1.9 billion into Equitas in return for offloading their liabilities relating to risks insured before 1993. Many of these liabilities relate to asbestos and pollution claims, emanating from the US, which are expected to continue feeding through as claims for many years to come.

However, *The Times* has been told that the DTI is close to agreeing that the Equitas premium need only be £1 billion, easing significantly the burden on names.

In March, Lloyd's sent names "estimates" of how much they have to pay to settle their debts, and, at the time, said that final statements would be sent by the end of May. The timetable has slipped, however, and final bills are now expected to be sent by the end of June, raising the possibility that the plan-

ned July 15 vote on acceptance of the settlement offer may have to be delayed.

If names accept the offer, Lloyd's, which has lost more than £8 billion in the past five years, will rid itself of the burden of future significant losses and end a mass of legal actions that threaten to stretch into the next century. If the offer is rejected, Lloyd's will collapse.

When names received their estimate bills, many reacted angrily because the allocation of the £2.8 billion was felt to prefer some groups of names unfairly. A large faction of the names who have consistently paid their losses to the market found that they were worse off under the offer than those names who have avoided paying their cash calls. This is because, under the original terms, Lloyd's capped all names' losses at £100,000 — after any funds held at Lloyd's had been exhausted. As a result, badly burnt names who have paid their debts had their funds at Lloyd's wiped out while those who have not paid their losses had their overall debt to the society reduced.

Another aggrieved camp consists of names who have suffered significant losses and, in some cases, have won compensation from the courts.

Lloyd's is said to be planning to introduce two new caps. One of these would benefit the hardest-hit names who have successfully won legal actions; the other would help names who have legal actions pending against accountancy firms.



Malcolm Jessop, managing director of Telephone Information Services, was celebrating the 50th birthday of his weather forecasting service at the weekend. The company provides forecasts for industry and those worried about unreliable bank holiday weather.

US utility close to agreed £2bn Midland bid

By Martin Waller, Deputy City Editor

ANOTHER domino is likely to fall this week in the electricity sector with an American bid worth almost £2 billion for Midlands Electricity, the regional company that had hoped to merge with PowerGen, the generator.

Weekend reports suggesting an agreed offer was imminent were confirmed by sources close to the bid, from General Public Utilities (GPU) of the US and a partner. The reports talked of an offer of about 450p a share. GPU's partner is thought to be Cinergy, of Cincinnati, although the company had been talking to Mission Energy, a third American utility.

Midlands' shares jumped 38p, to 423p, on Friday, valuing the company at £1.6 billion, after the board disclosed talks with a potential bidder. GPU, which generates most of the power used in Pennsylvania and New Jersey, is the operator of the Three Mile Island plant at which a disaster was narrowly averted in 1979.

It is known to be stalking a British electricity company together with a US partner. Ian Lang, the President of the Board of Trade, sent a rival bid from PowerGen for Midlands to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission.

Any approach to Midland would have to be an agreed one and would come this week, pitched at about 450p a share. This price would be far ahead of the 371p that was on offer from PowerGen. But the presence of the latter on Midlands' share register, with a 21 per cent holding, is a complicating factor.

Ed Wallis, PowerGen's chief executive, is furious about Mr Lang's intervention to block a deal that had been expected to

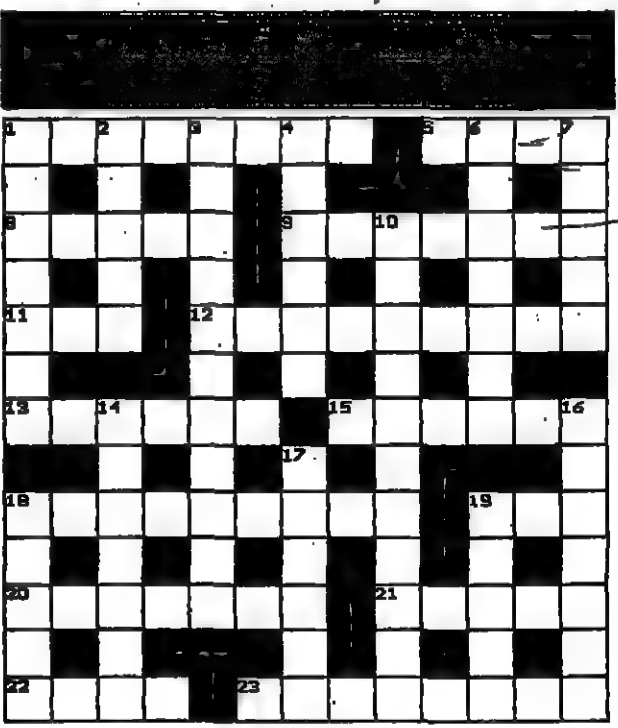
go through and is considering a judicial review to have it overturned. His company might then hold back from assenting its shareholding to any American deal before the results of such action is known.

However, PowerGen has another option. It could accept an American offer, taking a profit of as much as £80 million on its stake, and then launch an approach for one of the dwindling number of Tecs not already subject to takeover. The company was not commenting on its strategy last night.

NatWest says shun Railtrack

THE National Westminster Bank has advised selected customers to boycott the near-£2 billion Railtrack float because of political uncertainty if Labour wins the next election. A leaked letter to some investors says that the Railtrack flotation presents much higher risk than recent privatisations. The bank played down the letter, saying that it had advised those particular customers of potentially attractive short-term returns, as well as their inherent risks.

Reports of a rift between the Treasury and the Department of Transport on pricing the float were also played down, with Railtrack sources stating that indicative prices announced last week could still be raised.



No 774

- ACROSS**
- Proverbially rare event (4,4)
 - High cards; experts (4)
 - Slapstick comedian (5)
 - Internal ear cavity (7)
 - Replayed point (tennis) (3)
 - Of the highest (social) standing (3-6)
 - Collect, glean (6)
 - Greek/Turkish island (6)
 - Immediately (9)
 - Part of mouth; a tree (3)
 - Skip rapidly, playfully (7)
 - Sense of cold (5)
 - Take a pair of sparkling — ("Goudaliers") (4)
 - Santa's sleigh-team (8)
- DOWN**
- Work awaiting attention (7)
 - WW2 submarine (1-4)
 - Hold the fort (4,3,4)
 - Fill; seize and hold (6)
 - USA/USSR struggle (4,3)
 - A step (5)
 - Take the blame (5,3,3)
 - Mayonnaise sauce for fish (7)
 - Having resemblance (7)
 - Wild, savage (6)
 - Twelfth Night 8 across (5)
 - Move smoothly, easily (5)

SOLUTION TO NO 773

ACROSS: 1 Rope 3 Profit 9 Bingo 10 Figures 11 Treadle 12 Brew 14 Averse 16 Beetle 18 Chap 19 Anagram 22 Venting 23 Admit 24 Resigned 25 Levy

DOWN: 1 Rebutal 2 Pink elephants 4 Reflex 5 Legible 6 Bar be it from me 7 Cash 8 Fold 13 Geometry 15 Sapling 17 Dangle 20 Ajar 21 Over

SOLUTION TO MAY HOLIDAY JUMBO

ACROSS: 1 It felt to earth I knew not where 15 Alleged 16 Transport 17 Millstone 18 Trout 19 Israel 20 Magnesia 21 Child 22 Teasing 24 Swing the lead 25 Stasis 27 Mimed 28 Probationer 30 Iron-miner 32 Kaydii 34 Forethought 36 Discreet 37 Yellowstone 39 Lutharians 41 In-law 43 Undue 44 Lighthouse 45 Tastelessly 46 Forties 48 Edmund Burke 50 Despair 52 Emergence 53 Cosmologist 55 Nymph 56 Hectic 58 A year and a day 59 Pharaoh 62 Rouge 63 All stars 64 Stupor 66 He-hus 68 Extradite 69 Showiness 70 Orlando 71 Truth is stranger than fiction

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Somerfield staff share £2m bonus

By Sarah Bagnall

MORE THAN 29,000 employees of Somerfield, Britain's fifth-largest supermarket chain, are set to share a £2 million bonus.

The payments are a reward for providing high levels of service to customers over the past year and will result in some employees taking home a bonus of more than £700.

The 29,000 staff — all of whom work in the group's stores — will receive bonuses varying from half a week's to four weeks' extra pay.

The former Gateway group, forecast to make operating profit of about £85 million in the year to April 30, is thought to be heading for a £650 million stock market flotation this summer.

Each year, the group's 40,000 store staff are eligible for a bonus, awarded on a store-by-store basis. Last year, a "mystery shopper" visited 418 of the group's 610 stores and, using a range of measures, awarded bonus payments to staff in 383 stores. This compares with the 282 stores, employing 24,000 people, that qualified for payments in the previous year.

Measures include tidiness of the store, quickness of service and staff attitude to customers. Somerfield, formed in 1992, is owned by the debt-laden Isoscies. Isoscies bought the former Gateway chain in a highly leveraged £2.1 billion deal but then nearly collapsed. Radical restructuring resulted in Gateway supermarkets being ring-fenced from £744 million of debt, which was left in the parent, Gateway retained £400 million of debt.

BA director quits over prospects

The marketing director of British Airways has resigned suddenly just 10 months into the post after a row with the company over his job prospects. Ford Ennals, 40, is said to be disappointed at the lack of opportunities available to him at BA.

The company was refusing to give reasons for his departure or say if the parting was amicable. "Ford Ennals is currently on leave as his wife is expecting a baby," said a spokesman. "He has resigned and will be leaving the company this week."

A former Oxford United footballer, Mr Ennals joined BA from Fruits of the Loom, the US clothing company.

Jobs forecast

Almost one and a half million jobs will be created during the next five years — but they will all be part-time. The prediction is from David Kern, chief economist for the National Westminster Bank, in a report published today. He says the number of full-time jobs will fall by 10,000 in the same period. Unemployment will also fall, to 1.5 million by the year 2001, almost half a million below its mid-1995 level, says Mr Kern.

City guide

Industry and the City must continually improve their mutual understanding in order to promote the long-term health of both, according to a guide on key business relationships today. Produced by the Institute of Directors, the Institute of Investment Management and Research and the London Investment Banking Association, the guide seeks to promote best practice.

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ARTS
TUESDAY TO FRIDAY
IN SECTION 2

Despite appearances, Lisa Eichhorn will soon be playing Monroe on stage. Daniel Rosenthal reports

Perfectly misfitted to be Marilyn

As an up-and-coming film actress at the tail end of the Seventies, Lisa Eichhorn wanted to be the next Ingrid Bergman. The great Hollywood director George Cukor saw her on stage in 1982 and described her as Garboesque. Now, the former American at Oxford and star of *Yanks* is inviting comparisons with a third screen goddess: Marilyn Monroe.

Eichhorn, her brown hair dyed blonde, has flown from Manhattan to Manchester to portray Monroe in the world premiere of a play which dramatises the fraught production of what was to be her final film, Arthur Miller's bittersweet Western, *The Misfits*.

Set in 1960, in the 100-degree heat of Nevada, *Misfits*, by Texan playwright Alex Flinlayson, depicts Monroe approaching her lowest ebb. When she and Miller joined John Huston, Clark Gable and Montgomery Clift in Reno, their marriage was foundering and Monroe was increasingly dependent on barbiturates and her acting coach, Paula (wife of Lee) Strasberg. The play shows a pill-guzzling star jeopardising the completion of the picture.

"*Misfits* is Alex's imaginative vision of those two months in Nevada, not a black and white account," Eichhorn says. "My research has taught me that everybody remembers very different 'facts' about the same events in Marilyn's life, so you can't have a definitive version."

The people I've spoken to who knew Marilyn — including Kenneth, her hairdresser, and the actress Shelley Winters — say she was the nicest person they ever met. But she had a lot of demons. When she came to *The Misfits* she was also profoundly disappointed by her marriage to Miller. The union of intellectual god and sex goddess was not working.

In his autobiography Miller said he created Roslyn, the divorcee who finds hope in *The Misfits* with Gable's ageing cowboy, as "a gift" to his troubled wife. But Eichhorn believes the great playwright was wrong to incorporate elements of Marilyn's life, such as her early nude modelling and intense, unfulfilled desire for children, in Roslyn. "Those aspects of the part must have felt gruesome for Marilyn, like a terrible betrayal," she says. "But she still produced a magical performance that lets the camera into Roslyn's soul."

At 44, Eichhorn is ten years older than Monroe was in 1960, slimmer and finer-

featured. She will wear replicas of Monroe's costumes and has been working on the uniquely breathy voice and "liquid movement", but promises an interpretation rather than an impersonation. "There will be people who see me and say: 'She's too short', or 'She doesn't sound right'. But I hope they'll appreciate the quality of Alex's writing."

Although Eichhorn might fare poorly in a Monroe lookalike contest, her experience of Hollywood has given her an affinity with Marilyn that goes beyond their shared membership of the Strasbergs' Actors Studio in New York. "I could have gone the way of pills and drink, as Marilyn did," she says.

After growing up amid the steel plants and stocking factories of Reading, Pennsylvania, she read English and Drama at Queens University, Ontario. A one-year Rotary scholarship then took her to St Peter's College, Oxford, where she "fell in love" with England and excelled in student productions, including a *Tempest* directed by Mel Smith. The young Alan Rickman told her to audition for Rada. She won a place and, supported through her training by a wealthy, theatre-loving friend of her grandmother, did repertory theatre in Hornchurch, Bolton and Windsor.

In 1979 her agent told her that John Schlesinger was searching for an unknown to play Richard Gere's wartime Lancashire lover in *Yanks*. The successful candidate, she was told, would be 21, British and a virgin. Eichhorn was 27, American and, after a short-lived marriage to Rada tutor John Curless, a divorcee. So she lied about her nationality, put on a flawless Lancashire accent for the screen test and got the part. *Yanks* earned her a Golden Globe nomination and roles in *Cutter's Way*, with Jeff Bridges, and *The Europeans*. When she was cast opposite Gene Hackman in a romantic drama called *All Night Long*, further success seemed imminent. What followed was a classic illustration of star power.

Several weeks after *All Night Long* went into production, Barbara Streisand let it be known that she wanted Eichhorn's part and shooting was immediately suspended. "I was phoned by the producer at 1am and told I'd been fired and replaced by Streisand," Eichhorn says. "It felt like death. Suddenly, I believed I'd somehow failed in *Yanks* and the other pictures."

Eichhorn promises an interpretation rather than an impersonation



Lisa Eichhorn, hair dyed blonde for the part, takes on the spirit of Marilyn Monroe in *Misfits*

All Night Long's disastrous box office performance was no consolation. Even after another 15 years of steady cinema, television and stage work, and with three new films awaiting release, Eichhorn cannot forget the huge impact of her dismissal. "I'd reached that point in Hollywood where either you take hold of things or they take hold of you. I was in danger of going into the kind of downward spiral that Marilyn experienced. I survived, but Marilyn's childhood had left her damaged. She was easy prey to the star system. In some ways it's a miracle she lasted as long as she did."

● *Misfits* opens on Thursday at the Royal Exchange, Manchester (0161-833 9833)

Warm, rich and mellow

BLUES

Jimmy Witherspoon
Jazz Café, NW1

MELLOW is a word usually associated with coffee nowadays, which is a pity as it sums up the appeal of this veteran blues singer. Again mellow may not seem appropriate for one of the last of the blues shouters — a tradition that stretches back to the prewar stylings of Big Joe Turner and Jimmy Rushing.

But this was shouting tempered by age, experience and illness. "I had radiation treatment on my throat and turned an octave lower," said Jimmy, reminding us of his successful battle against throat cancer 17 years ago.

He started slowly, if a little unsurely, with *Gee Baby, Ain't I Good To You* before slipping effortlessly into Amos Milburn's *One Scotch, One Bourbon, One Beer*. Then came a well-thumbed succession of blues standards with Witherspoon, his voice stronger and more confident and still capable of the velvet growl that marked his work in the Fifties and Sixties, skipping from *Trouble in Mind* to *Cherry Red Blues* and from *I'm Gonna Move to the Outskirts of Town* to *Every Day I Have the Blues*.

As a performer, Witherspoon has found it easy to move from blues to jazz. Unfortunately his jazz-based backing group of piano, bass, drums and sax found the journey more difficult. They were fine on the slower numbers but when the tempo quickened, with Witherspoon switching from *Big Boss Man* to *Hi-Heel Sneakers*, there was a crying need for a decent blues guitarist and a pianist with a strong left hand.

Still, it didn't faze Jimmy, an artist who, he told us, first discovered the blues in Calcutta when he was a



Fine form: Veteran Jimmy Witherspoon

Blues. Nattily dressed in a pin-striped suit, the 72-year-old looked like a benign South American dictator as he ended the evening as he began it, with some quiet and reflective pieces including *A Wonderful World*, the Louis Armstrong hit he had already performed earlier in the set but had decided to reprise because, "it's my favourite song".

It was an evening that was rich and warming — like perhaps, a good strong cup of coffee.

JOHN CLARKE

CLASSICAL CHOICE

A guide to the best available recordings, presented in conjunction with Radio 3

SCHUBERT'S WINTERREISE
by Alan Blyth

Schubert's second song cycle, to the poetry of Wilhelm Müller, depicts the bleak winter journey of a rejected lover, tramping his way forlornly across a winter landscape.

There are, incredibly, more than 50 versions in the catalogue, most of them by baritone or basses, a few by tenors — and four by mezzo-sopranos. In a searing, highly idiosyncratic and very free reading (EMI CDC7 49846-2), is by far the most convincing: an obsessed, deeply despondent soul, making a strong case for a female interpreter whatever the texts may tell us to the contrary.

The first recording of all, made in 1933 by Gerhard Hüsch (Preisler 89202), represents the old, respected, honestly sung tradition of his era. This was succeeded by the more haunted and troubled readings, five of them, by the towering figure of Hans Hotter, the best of which, his EMI version of 1954 (CDH7 61002-2) with Gerald Moore, remains an engrossing performance.

His famous successor, Dietrich Fischer-Dieskau, made no fewer than eight versions, each in its own way revelatory. Of those available at present, choose the DG budget-label version with Daniel Barenboim (DG Klassikon 439 432-2), made in



1980 with the singer at the peak of his powers and Barenboim providing deeply considered playing.

In his brand new reading, more contained and poignant than Fischer-Dieskau's, Wolfgang Holzmair has Imogen Cooper as his discerning partner (Philips 446 607-2). Other restrained performances are those with a fortepiano accompaniment. Among these, Ernst Haefliger, with Jorg-Ewald Dähler playing a sweet-toned instrument of 1820, is remarkable for frugal, unsophisticated interpretation (Claves CD 50-2008).

Among modern tenors none touches the great Peter Schreier, who has recorded the cycle twice. Wonderful as it is, his earlier, live recording with Richter has been overtaken by his 1991 Decca version with Andras Schiff as an eloquently imaginative partner (Decca 436 122-2, £14.95). In verbal acuity and tonal intensity Schreier's reading has the edge over even Fischer-Dieskau, as it is sung in the keys originally intended by Schubert.

● To order the recommended recording, with free delivery, please send a cheque payable to The Times CD Mail to 29 Pall Mall Deposit, Barlby Road, London W10 6BL or freephone 0500 418419; e-mail: bid@mail.bogo.co.uk
● Next Saturday on Radio 3: Couperin's harpsichord works

Dark and joyful happening

CONCERTS
Birtwistle Festival
South Bank

AS THE South Bank's Harrison Birtwistle Retrospective steered towards its close through a series of premieres, it also lived up to its name by looking back at a clutch of the composer's concertos. His trumpet work, *Endless Parade*, was skipped over, but on Wednesday and Thursday the more recent pieces featuring saxophone, tuba and piano were heard.

After giving an early-evening performance of *Pavane*, the dense score written only for last year's Proms but already notching up repeated airings, Franz Welser-Möst and the London Philharmonic reappeared on Wednesday night for *The Cry of Anubis*. As much a tone poem as a tuba concerto, it evokes a procession of the dead led by Anubis, the jackal-headed overseer of the underworld in Egyptian mythology. The darksome music, rooted loosely around sombre D minor, is at once beautiful and frightening.

There are moments when time seems to stop, but the score is much more than shadowy orchestral sonorities: at the climax the tuba's rapidly-fired notes are answered by volleys on the timpani. Owen Slade was a virtuosic soloist, and Welser-Möst controlled his forces expertly.

The following evening Peter Eötvös took charge of the more substantial — indeed, extraordinarily complex — *Antiphonies* in a performance that reunited Joanna MacGregor and the Philharmonia, the pianist and orchestra responsible for its premiere three years ago. *Antiphonies* has no programme: it is music

JOHN ALLISON

'Genius goes to war' The Times 'Enigma totally gripped me' ROY JENKINS, Sunday Times

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The possibility of getting something from nothing

A puzzle solved?

A PHYSICIST at Cambridge University has produced a new and daring explanation of an old puzzle. If she is right, it could be the first convincing evidence that it is possible to get something from nothing.

The question Claudia Eberlein addresses in a forthcoming issue of *Physical Review Letters* is that of sonoluminescence, first identified 70 years ago. If you expose water to a blast of ultrasound, you get a flash of light. This is deeply puzzling, because visible light has so much more energy than sound that the energy of the sound has somehow to be boosted a trillionfold. Explaining how has occupied a lot of effort. The conventional view is that the sound waves generate tiny bubbles which then collapse, emitting bursts of light lasting less than 12 billionths of a second. The wavelength of the light emitted implies that their source is at a temperature of tens of thousands of degrees C—about the temperature of the surface of the Sun.

If this sounds implausible, Ms Eberlein's explanation is likely to be even more so. She suggests that the emission of the light is a so-called quantum vacuum effect—energy given off by a vacuum. Quantum theory says that there is in reality no such thing as a vacuum, and that empty space teems with



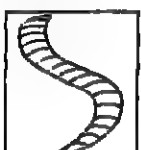
SCIENCE BRIEFING
Nigel Hawkes

"virtual particles" including photons, which flit in and out of existence. The idea that sonoluminescence might be a quantum vacuum effect came first from the Nobel Prize-winning physicist Julian Schwinger. Ms Eberlein argues that if the traditional explanation was right, the huge temperatures would break the surrounding water into its constituent atoms—and it does not. She suggests instead that it is the accelerating front of water in the collapsing bubble that manages to turn virtual photons into real ones. Her calculations show that if this were happening, the characteristics of the light emitted would closely resemble that observed in sonoluminescence.

The theory is open to test, she says, by analysing the distribution over time of the photons emitted, which should contain evidence of their origin.

If it turns out to be right, her explanation will be a major coup, the first observable manifestation of quantum vacuum radiation. Physicists, many of whom have been uneasy about the idea of tiny bubbles as hot as the Sun, would be pretty pleased. "This would come as a bit of a relief," Dr Peter Knight of Imperial College told *New Scientist*.

There's a soup in my worm



THE New Zealand flatworm, introduced to Britain by accident more than 30 years ago, destroys our native earthworms by wrapping itself around them and secreting an enzyme that turns them into a kind of soup. A horrible death, and the effects could be serious. If the native earthworms are destroyed, the productivity of the soil will fall.

Dr Derek Cozens and colleagues from the University of Edinburgh have set out to discover just how destructive *Arctiophila triangularis* really is. They didn't have to travel far, using the lawns of the King's Buildings on the Edinburgh campus as an experimental area. By sampling different areas of lawn, at varying distances from the borders where the flatworms were assumed to have been introduced, they were able to track their progress and the rate at which they slaughtered earthworms.

The conclusion, published in the *Journal of the Zoological Society of London*, is that each flatworm kills 0.67 of an earthworm every week. Although this is a lower rate than found in laboratory experiments, that is not very consoling to gardeners or farmers. The team's conclusion is that the flatworms actively search for the earthworms by slithering down their tunnels, and will hunt them to the point of extinction.

Meat and cancer risks



NATIONS where meat-eating is part of the culture tend to have higher rates of colon cancer, and some studies have suggested that the risk is linked to red meat. The reason for this association has, however, never been clear. Now an experiment at the Dunn Clinical Nutrition Centre at Cambridge has thrown suspicion on nitrosamines, chemicals that are known to be carcinogenic.

The team recruited eight male volunteers who were fed on diets either high or low in meat. The moderate consumers were given only 60 grams of beef, lamb, or pork a day, while those at the other extreme were fed ten times as much. The amount of fat in both diets was the same, and the diets were low in amines.

The amounts of nitroso compounds excreted by the volunteers were measured, and this showed that a diet high in red meat increased the amounts threefold. While meat and fish had no effect. The team concludes in the *Journal of Carcinogenesis* that high consumption of red meat increases the production of these compounds in the intestine, the first time this has ever been demonstrated. The amounts of the nitroso compounds produced are substantial, producing a lifetime exposure of the same order as the lowest doses found to cause cancer in rodents.



Children very quickly realise, as do chimpanzees, that the reflection in the mirror is an image of themselves. Monkeys are unable to grasp that fact

Baby...it's you

Then the eyes of both were opened and they knew that they were naked. When our biblical ancestors took of the fruit and ate, humanity received the dangerous gift of self-knowledge. Self-consciousness might be thought an unpromising target for science, but over the past 25 years a number of psychologists have taken an interest in self-awareness among our primate cousins as well as its

An experiment with chimpanzees and mirrors has helped us to understand how children first become aware of themselves. Dr Adam Zeman reports

emergence in the course of human childhood.

In 1970 an American animal psychologist, Gordon Gallup, who works with primates, the mammalian "order" comprising prosimians, monkeys, apes and man, became interested in what primates understood, or could learn, about reflections. He noticed that if chimpanzees were allowed to see themselves in a mirror, they started by treating their reflection as an intruder in the cage. But they rapidly learnt that the reflection was, in fact, their own image.

Their perceptiveness should not surprise us greatly: chimps are, of course, our closest living relatives. But Gallup observed that monkeys, possessors of much smaller brains than chimps, were unable to learn that mirrors showed them their own reflections, even after periods of exposure numbering thousands of hours.

He followed up these observations with a simple but powerful experiment. After administering a general anaesthetic, he painted marks on the chimps and monkeys in positions in which they could only be seen with the aid of a mirror. Great care was taken to ensure that the paint was non-irritant and odourless. When they had recovered from their anaesthetic, chimps rapidly noticed the marks in the mirror and examined them in great detail: monkeys never did so.

These findings have been confirmed repeatedly since and extended to a range of other animals. The experiments are described in an absorbing collection of essays, *Self Awareness in Animals and Man* (Cambridge University Press, 1994).

The chimp's mental world, unlike the monkey's, is large enough to include "itself"—its body—in its conception of reality: the chimp has an "idea of me", of however primitive a kind. Chimps recognise themselves in mirrors from between the ages of two and three years. Human children are quicker off the mark, achieving success in tests akin to Gallup's experiments at around 18 months.

A cluster of other achievements over the months that follow indicated the flowering of the child's idea of me: children master the first person pronoun, and begin to exchange roles in play. An interest in self-adornment makes its first appearance. It can be no coincidence that the remarkable discovery of bloody-mindedness by the two-year-old child coincides with these other, more wel-

come, advances. Acquiring an "idea of me" has other implications for emotions and relationships. It facilitates what have been described as second order—or self-evaluative—emotions. First order emotions, such as joy, anger, sadness, interest, disgust and fear do not presuppose any self-evaluation. By contrast, embarrassment, envy, pride, guilt and shame all require a sense of the self.

The idea of self, which implies the idea of "other", deepens relationships. It is significant that children first try to comfort distressed companions at about the age of 18 months.

By the age of two the human child, like the chimp, has taken a substantial step towards self-knowledge. But there is still some way to go, further, perhaps, than the chimp can go.

In our everyday thinking, we constantly attribute mental states to one another, and to ourselves. I have

just eaten a peanut bar because I was hungry, and know, that I like, the taste of the variety I remembered snatching away. The words italicised refer to mental states. Without such notions we would be at a loss to explain most human behaviour. The knowledge that underpins our use of mental terms has been described as a "theory of mind".

The two-year-old's theory of mind is growing but incomplete. In particular, two and three-year-olds lack an understanding of beliefs and how we acquire them. Shown a packet of Smarties that turns out—to their surprise—to be full of pencils, three-year-olds consistently say that a new owner will think the box is full of pencils.

Four-year-olds possess a much richer understanding of the limited perspective from which we gather knowledge, and of the errors and deceptions this can lead to. They have enlarged their "awareness of awareness" into a concept of experience more akin to yours and mine.

If we were deprived of this awareness we would suffer from a disabling psychological blindness. An outstanding recent study by the British psychologist Simon Baron-Cohen, *Mind Blindness* (MIT Press, 1995) summarises the evidence that this is exactly the predicament of children with autism.

The term autism describes a broad spectrum of childhood disorders which have in common an impoverishment of social interaction, language development and imaginative

play. Most students of these conditions agree that children suffering from autism have damaged or disordered brains, but the condition is compatible with high intelligence and the underlying "lesion" must be a very selective one.

Simon Baron-Cohen and others have suggested that the key psychological impairment in sufferers from these conditions is an inability to "read minds" in the accomplished manner of the average or even the retarded four-year-old.

The autistic children studied by Baron-Cohen often develop a concept of the simpler mental states such as wanting and seeing. But the trickier notions of belief and pretence, of the

sources of knowledge and the means of concealment, of the distinctions between appearance and reality, between dream worlds and our waking one, baffle them.

By the time they are five, most children have a richly developed consciousness of self. When they look in the mirror they see both a body and a mind. Whether their complex idea of self evolved as a weapon in the eternal battle to manipulate others, or to facilitate teaching and learning—currently the two main rival hypotheses—may never be entirely clear.

But the work of Gallup, Baron-Cohen and their colleagues teaches us that self-awareness can be studied fruitfully, has a natural history and is a fragile biological achievement.

Dr Adam Zeman, a neurologist in Cambridge and Norwich, is writing *An Introduction to Consciousness* which will be published by Routledge.

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A voyage round his daughter

Rumpole's creator is being eclipsed by his daughter. Rachel Kelly met her

At the moment, Emily Mortimer is most famous for being John Mortimer's daughter. But soon she may cease to be introduced as his offspring, and he may have to accept being known as her father.

She has already had the call from Hollywood and this summer stars as Val Kilmer's wife in *The Ghost and the Darkness*. In the film, shot in Africa, she is supposedly consumed by a lion. "He was in a cage for three days without being fed. Then they let him out and tempted him with a frozen chicken. I had to run in front of him, trying not to look like the chicken, as best I could," she recalls from the comfort of an armchair in the Halcyon Hotel in London's Notting Hill, close to her newly-acquired one-bedroom flat.



Father: John Mortimer

She has looks to kill for but, typically self-deprecating, worries about a sleepy left eye — unnoticeable to me.

Now she has received the ultimate stamp of approval — an appearance in *Hellol* with her father. It was not a happy experience. "They got us reading a copy of *King Lear* together. It was awful. My mother wouldn't let them shoot the pictures in our house [five bedrooms in Oxfordshire] so we had to go to someone else's home. I burst into tears in the middle. Dad was completely relaxed and not really trying. I kept saying terrible things like 'We can't do this... it's all right for you... you're at the end of your career, I'm at the beginning of mine... Do something.'"



Emily Mortimer: "My only fear is that people will be disappointed in me — that I'm not as funny or as clever or such a good egg as him. He is pathetically proud"

production by a theatrical agent. She had her first television part — as a rich girl in *The Glass Virgin* — secured before she finished finals in 1994 at Oxford. (She read *Russian and English* and got a 2:2.)

Of course having done interviews, people know that I'm his daughter," she says. "And I'm delighted and chuffed and proud to be. My only fear is that people will be disappointed in me — that I'm not as funny or as clever or such a good egg as him. He really is the best company. The best raconteur. And he's been incredibly supportive. I wouldn't look to

him for constructive, objective criticism. He is pathetically proud."

Emily, 24, is John's daughter by his second wife Penelope, by whom he also has an 11-year-old daughter, Rosie. He has two other children by his first wife. "My father secretly wanted to be an actor."

"When he was asked to play Richard III at the Dragon school aged ten, he said it was the best moment of his life. So we share a love of theatre, but our relationship is polite rather than passionate. It's a great friendship."

Crime buster

Giles Whittell on the unusual methods of forensic artist Jeanne Boylan, and how she is beating the police

Jeanne Boylan, America's top forensic artist, appeared briefly on ABC's network news the other night. It was the eve of the anniversary of the Oklahoma City bombing and Ms Boylan was in Oklahoma. She was sitting on a sofa, interviewing a man who delivers Chinese food for a living, sketching a face.

Her specialty is the retrieval of precious mental snapshots from eyewitness memories. The sketches she produces, often after traditional forensic artists have failed, are dead ringers for some of America's most wanted criminals.

It was becoming a stressful week. The media had begun to see a common factor in the nation's top three crime stories. Television news vans were staking out the hotel, and rumours were beginning to fly that she was psychic, and was suing the FBI.



From left, the police composite of 12-year-old Polly Klaas's alleged killer, Jeanne Boylan's drawing, and the accused man, Richard Allen Davis

thing that elicits a positive response" — from hobbies to the weather. Eventually, often in the last hour of the interview, she asks abstract questions about texture and shape.

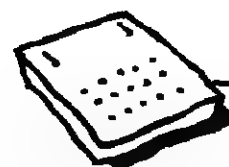
The results are extraordinary. In the Polly Klaas case the initial police composite sketch of a 6ft 3in man with a headband turned up no leads. Two weeks later Ms Boylan interviewed two of Polly's friends who were with her on the night of her abduction. She produced a radically different portrait of a 5ft 7in man with no headband. When Richard Allen Davis was eventually arrested, Ms Boylan's sketch was described by a local policeman as "serie — almost like a photo".

Three months later detectives were giving up in the hunt for the killer of a Los Angeles policeman. Ms Boylan was called in to interview witnesses and an arrest was made within days of her sketch. In April 1994 she helped to solve San Francisco's Good Samaritan murder, but only after the mother of the victim (a 23-year-old environmentalist who pursued a street hoodlum after a robbery) failed to persuade the police to hire Ms Boylan, and did so herself.

By the time the Unabomber claimed his last victim last year, the FBI knew all about this softly spoken, one-woman crime-fighting revolution from Oregon. Her sketch of the man who appears to be Ted Kaczynski was made during a six-hour session with a Utah woman who had seen him for one second, seven-and-a-half years earlier. She

has come a long way since stumbling on forensic drawing while working part-time at a sheriff's station to pay her way through college. Before becoming a speaker fêted from Moscow to El Salvador, she endured years of sexism and suspicion from police artists and detectives jealous of her results. (Composite sketching has a 20 per cent accuracy rate; Ms Boylan's accuracy rate is in the 90s.) "At meetings I'm ostracised," she told the *Los Angeles Times* two years ago. "If I sit down with them at lunch they move to another table."

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Good intentions and gangster chic from Armani

GIORGIO ARMANI invited half a dozen members of the criminal fraternity into his Emporio Armani store in Knightsbridge yesterday. There they watched a new film, ate canapés and mingled

with assorted celebrities. This was no shady jamboree held to flatter the egos of powerful but sinister men. Rather it was Mr Armani's sincere attempt to step down from his Milanese ivory tower and involve

himself with the real world. Of course, if the Italian tax authorities have their way, the designer will not need to make any special effort. They have their very own programme planned out for him in an Italian jail.



One of the prisoner-designed T-shirts

At yesterday's launch, there were six current inmates of Downview and Coldingley medium security prisons, all wearing the designs. Another

20 former prisoners also seized their opportunity to mingle with the likes of John Cleese.

Proceeds from the T-shirt sales will go to RAPT, but the charity's main ambition is simply to raise its profile.

decided to become involved because they were "moved" by what they saw of the RAPT programme. But no one can seriously believe that a fashion empire would make such a public connection on an emotional whim.

GRACE BRADBERRY
STYLE EDITOR

ST. JOSEPH'S HOSPICE

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Matthew Parris



■ I appear to be going through an identity crisis: not my own — not yet, anyway — but other people's

Oh dear. Last week started in confusion and ended in despair. The way my life is going, the errors and apologies will be longer than my autobiography. Apologies this week are due to Thomas Paton, Danny Crossley, Sir Andrew Lloyd Webber, Sir Tim Rice, Lady Thorneycroft, Dame Thora Hird and Auntie Madge's relations.

Let us begin with Auntie Madge. She and my uncle Lester have been married for 40 years and last Sunday, their daughter Lorna gave a surprise wedding anniversary party for them. It was fun. I attended bearing my gift, still, unfortunately, in an old plastic bag.

Madge has never pulled her punches ("Oh, aren't you looking old?" she greeted me) and is much admired by us all at present for having set upon a mugger who tried to rob Uncle Lester last month. The mugger lost badly. "I always told myself," said Madge, who used to work in a shop, "that if anyone threatened me I would just give them the money. But that was the boss's money."

For a wild moment, it occurred to me that Douglas Hurd might be Thora Hird's son

That was Sunday. On Monday, last week's equivalent of this column appeared. It reported an evening out at the musical *Cats*. I complimented the dancer, Thomas Paton, on his sparkling interpretation of Mistofoles, and mentioned that Sir Andrew Lloyd Webber had written *Cats* after writing *Cats*. On Tuesday, a number of *Times* readers informed me that Lloyd Webber did not write *Cats*: it was Sir Tim Rice. Sorry, Sir Tim Rice: sorry Sir Andrew Lloyd Webber.

On Wednesday, Thomas Paton telephoned me at *The Times*. My *Cats* programme was out of date, he said. He had not danced the role of Mistofoles, having left *Cats* to join *Grease*. It was his understudy, Danny Crossley, whom I had seen dancing so well. Mr Paton wondered whether I could find a way of giving credit where due to Danny Crossley. Sorry, Thomas: sorry Danny.

That was Wednesday. I had been looking forward to Thursday, for I had an invitation to a luncheon given by the outgoing Lord Mayor of Westminster, Dame Thora Hird, whom I have always wanted to meet, was a great occasion. As outgoing Lord Mayor, Councillor Alan Bradley had assembled a real kaledoscope of guests, many of

him respect his memory. But when you get out of your depth, you panic. I should have explained and apologised, but I thought, "Well, maybe Peter Thorneycroft was married to Thora Hird. Actresses do sometimes keep their stage names."

For one wild moment, it even occurred to me that Douglas Hurd might be Thora's son. I realise that sounds preposterous now but, at the time, funny things cross your mind. So I kept babbling mindlessly away, as if this might have been Thora Hird. Poor lady, she must think I'm quite mad. Sorry, Lady Thorneycroft: sorry Dame Thora Hird: sorry Lord Mayor. Sorry everyone.

Some years ago my secretary, Mrs Wright, who may soon have to leave her desk and trail around after me like a mental nurse, had endured a week in which I had mistaken all my engagements. Summoning me on the Friday, she pointed to a stack of small cards, on each of which she had set out details of succeeding engagements: a sort of idiot's guide — whom I was meeting, where, why, etc. in chronological order. The final card was blank, save the words, "Matthew Parris MP."

"Why my name, Eileen?" I asked. "For when you forget it," she said.

The central principles of Tory philosophy live, yet Government faith in them appears to have died

Cold comfort for cradle-Conservatives

Roman Catholics in Liverpool are divided about the character of the new archbishop they would like to succeed the late Derek Worlock. Some want a continuation of his ecumenical and socially left-wing leadership, and would like another archbishop of the same sympathy. Others have petitioned the Vatican and the English bishops for a more conservative archbishop. One of these conservatives, Bart Harrington, has written a letter to *The Daily Telegraph* which quotes their petition. I personally have no sympathy with the Liverpool petitioners' attack on Archbishop Worlock's ecumenism, but at least one paragraph will strike a sympathetic note with a wider audience.

"The growing demise of Catholicism is due to a lack of vision which arises from the absence of hope, which in turn comes from the decline in belief among Catholics of what the Catholic Church truly is." So far as I am concerned, as a Roman Catholic, I look to the Pope, the bishops and the Second Vatican Council to tell me what the Catholic Church truly is. I am suspicious of those protestants of the Catholic right who implicitly reject the teaching authority of that council and, therefore, of subsequent Popes. But I recognise the force of what the petitioners are arguing.

There were a lot of Conservatives before the local elections, and maybe even more after them, who would exactly endorse that Liverpool sentence if the words "Catholicism", "Catholics" and "Catholic Church" were replaced with the words "Conservatism", "Conservatives" and "Conservative Party". There is a "growing demise" of Conservatism: there is a "lack of vision", there is a "decline of belief" among Conservatives. These statements could scarcely be denied. The question is whether this decline has been caused by a lack of understanding of what Conservatism truly is.

Is the decline of the Conservative Party the result of its current leadership being too Conservative, or of its not being Conservative enough?

Some people argue the former case. Tony Blair often says that the Government has moved to the right. Tony Blair is an interesting political commentator, shrewd about many things, but he cannot justify this proposition, either in terms of personalities or policies. The only thing which makes John Major look at all right wing is that he is to the right of Kenneth Clarke and Michael Heseltine. If one compares him to his predecessor, Margaret Thatcher, he looks to be on the soft-centre Left. Kenneth Clarke himself occupies a political position distinguishable from Tony Blair's only by the party logo. Yet Kenneth Clarke and Michael Heseltine have a veto power on Government policy. They are the "big beasts of the jungle" in Downing Street phyllophagous, and the Prime Minister does not try to impose his will against theirs. At best, as with the referendum, he will engage in a protracted negotiation under external pressure. The Cabinet's tiddlers are worse: look at John Gummer, and despair.

Instinctive Conservatives, what one might call cradle-Conservatives, have a concept of society which is neither ignoble, irrational, nor lacking in compassion. They believe that the interest of Britain is the touch-

stone of policy, and suspect that it has been sacrificed to the European Union, in Maastricht, in beef and fish, in money and in the subordination of the British to the European courts. They share President De Gaulle's vision of a Europe of independent nations and reject Chancellor Kohl's vision of a Europe on the federal German model. They fear that the Kohl view is winning in Europe and do not trust the Government to oppose it.

They consider that the state has

functions of defence, foreign policy, law, welfare and expenditure, all of which must be kept in balance with the rights of the individual citizen. They regard the present balance as tipped too far in favour of state power and against the citizen as an individual. They would apply a rule of a third — that the state should be organised so that it should never, in peacetime, take more than a third of the national income, and that no citizen should have to pay more than a third in income tax. They believe that would be fair and efficient. Some of them would make it a rule of a

quarter — none accept the common European rule of a half or more.

They believe, and this coincides with Roman Catholic belief, that society is sustained by institutions and by the family, and they do not think family savings should be taxed when they are handed down from one generation to the next. They see this as almost an anti-family government, particularly in taxation and in proposing fault-free, clap-your-hands divorce. If one asks why there is so little hope left among these natural Conservatives, it is because they regard the Government as indifferent or hostile to Conservative principles. They do not forget Maastricht, they do not forgive the Lord Chancellor's divorce proposals.

Respect for institutions, and a duty of loyalty to them, is so much a part of Conservative belief that cradle-Conservatives cannot feel comfortable when judges are forced repeatedly to criticise or overturn the Home Secretary.

They have a fear and hatred of violent crime. They believe in deterrent punishments when necessary. They are sometimes shocked by newspaper headlines which suggest that judges have imposed unduly lenient sentences. But they still believe that British law should be a matter for British judges, not for British politicians or the European courts.

Of course these views can be, and

often are, misrepresented. Conservative beliefs centre on concepts of duty, family, respect for law, low government, low taxation, national independence, business opportunity, individualism, liberty. Like any other set of beliefs, they can become exaggerated in particular policies, but that is not now the danger. These are the widely held beliefs of large numbers of ordinary people, who are not among the rich and privileged. The Labour Party knows their strength and Tony Blair often advocates them, if rather selectively.

These beliefs are nowadays much more strongly maintained among the electorate than they are by the Government. They are also psychologically associated with a belief in the need for leadership. I recently spent an evening with some deeply Conservative farmers in the West Country; they are extremely angry about what they see as the mishandling of "mad cow disease". One of them summed up their feelings: "The trouble with this country is that we're not getting any leadership from this Government", or, he added regretfully, "from the Royal Family".

The local elections showed that many good Conservatives were staying at home. No doubt they will feel rather more enthusiastic at the general election, but there is no sign of a return of the will for victory. If the beliefs of real Conservatives were extremist, as left-wing socialism genuinely is, then a real Conservative Party might be doomed to defeat. But family values, the attack on crime, low taxes, national independence, business enterprise and inspiring leadership are extremely popular themes. The Liverpool Roman Catholics are right in this: from belief grows hope, and from hope comes vision. To its own best supporters, John Major's seems to be a government of doubt, depression and encircling gloom.

When decency is not enough

Peter Riddell says that the Prime Minister's doggedly fair image is almost his last hope



RIDDELL ON MONDAY

John Major's main weakness as a politician is that he believes in fairness. He has little of the worldly-wise cynicism of, say, Michael Heseltine, or the damn-them-all robustness of Kenneth Clarke.

Mr Major believes he is being treated unfairly by much of the media, by his critics in the Conservative Party and by the Opposition. However, he still feels criticism personally. He is genuinely angered by Tony Blair's attacks in the Commons and by what appears in the press, and he can give detailed examples.

Mr Major has a point. Many of his press and party critics seem to be in a fantasy world, demanding shifts in a "true blue" direction which would make Tory divisions even worse. As I have argued before, the Major Government is not nearly as bad as its critics allege. It has addressed, in some cases belatedly, the key issues of managing the economy and public services and has taken risks over Northern Ireland, even if it has fudged over Europe.

Appeals to fairness may eventually count with historians, who will rate Mr Major more highly than his contemporaries do, but they are irrelevant for voters during the next 12 months.

After the local elections a year ago, I discussed the conditions which had in the past led to a loss of office. There is no fixed formula, but each defeated government has suffered from at least five or six of the factors. In May 1995, the Tories had already fulfilled at least six of the eight criteria for defeat, and most have got worse since

then. The Major Government is deeply split over a key issue (Europe), with no sign of any true; has broken a pledge to voters (by raising taxes, only partly offset by recent cuts); has presided over a crisis in financial markets which has damaged claims to economic competence (Black Wednesday); has alienated many party supporters (by appearing out-of-touch and disunited); has given an impression of sleaze and scandal (continued stories about MPs' outside financial interests) and faces an opposition that looks like a credible alternative government (the continuing Blair effect).

The other two indicators — having the will to govern and offering a clear direction on policy — could at best be described as ambiguous, though both are now moving away from the Tories. And I would now add a ninth

precondition for defeat: a decline in party organisation, membership and finances. Although the Tories have stabilised their finances, the morale of many key local activists will have been further battered by the local election results.

The Tories now have far more of these factors against them than they did before their previous postwar defeats. The divisions in the party are now much worse than in 1945, 1964-66 or 1974.

On each of these occasions, the party regrouped quickly and was back in office within half a dozen years. The only real parallel with now is the collapse of the Balfour Government in 1905. This was followed by a decade of Tory infighting over leader-

ship and policy, and loss of credibility as an alternative government which was only really ended by the First World War.

Moreover, it is hard to see much scope for improvement in any of the nine factors before the election. Appeals for party unity made by Mr Heseltine and others yesterday are immediately contradicted by the Euro-sceptics' determination to press their campaign. John Redwood's mini-manifesto on Wednesday will be seen as underlining, rather than healing, party divisions. Even the economy may be less of a plus over the next 12 months than the Tory leadership hopes.

Admittedly, living standards are now rising and the housing market is picking up. But the political world is paying less attention than it should to worries in financial markets about

the deterioration in public finances. If he is to retain his reputation as a fiscally responsible Chancellor, Kenneth Clarke will have to rule out big tax cuts in the November Budget and may have to consider tax increases and/or politically unpopular cuts in public spending. A rise in interest rates may be hard to avoid over the next 12 months: any early cut could undermine confidence and could even trigger a sterling crisis. Mr Clarke has much less freedom of manoeuvre than the more gung-ho Tory backbenchers believe.

The main positive factors for the Tories are voters' continuing doubts about Labour's policies, and Mr Major's image of dogged decency. The most recent MORI poll for *The Times* ten days ago showed that the new Labour switchers, those who have swung behind Labour since 1992, are much more hostile to the Tories than convinced by Labour's ability to deliver on its promises.

These switchers like Mr Blair a lot, believe that Labour is more united and less extreme than it was in the 1980s and the Tories now are, but have doubts about the Opposition's economic policies. Hence, Mr Blair's repeated warnings against Labour complacency are well-based.

Mr Major is an asset to the Tories, if only in the sense that he is less unpopular than the Government. He is liked rather than respected but, perversely, his belief in fairness in policies could now be a strength. It brings out his stubborn streak, his desire to demonstrate to his critics that they are wrong. Mr Major has repeatedly shown that he can be an impressive fighter under pressure — in the 1992 general election, the 1994 Euro-elections and in last summer's leadership contest.

This determination, reinforced by the desire of ministers to hold on to office, may see the Government through the next 12 months. But it will almost certainly not be enough to save the election for the Tories in the face of all the strains of political ageing after so long in power. That may also be the fair verdict, even though Mr Major will never see it that way.

Brain drain

THE BBC is continuing its purge of presenters on Radio 4's *Thought for the Day* amid accusations that it is trying to make the morning programme politically correct.

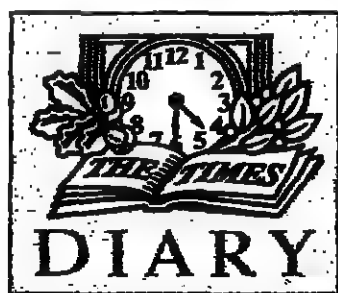
Less than a fortnight after *The Times* revealed that three contribu-

tors to its religious slot on *Today* were to be "rested", one of the programme's best-known presenters, the Bishop of Oxford, the Right Rev Richard Harries, has also been dropped.

The bishop is *Thought for the Day*'s longest-serving presenter, having contributed regularly for 24 years. He joins Canon Philip Crowe, the former principal of Salisbury Theological College, the Ven George Austin, the Archdeacon of York, and Dr Leslie Griffiths, former president of the Methodist Conference, on the substitute's bench.

David Coomes, the programme's producer, has told presenters that their scripts are too simplistic and too political. Bishop Harries, a former Dean of King's College, London, is puzzled. "It's frankly rather surprising," he says. "I do have some evidence that people like the more sophisticated approach that I try to take."

Today presenters such as John Humphrys are also surprised and Rachel Mahwood, of the listeners' pressure group Radio 4 Watch, is appalled. "They can't rest him, that's ridiculous," she barks. "We'll



have to start a Bring Back Richard Harries Campaign."

Final chapter

LITERARY news: Frederick Forsyth, Germaine Greer and John Julius Norwich are mourning the departure from the books world of their terrifically efficient literary agent, Diana Barrington.

After more than 30 years in the trade, Diana has laid down her marker-pen for the last time and is retiring from the business altogether. With such hits as *The Female Eunuch* to her name, her experience at the agency Curtis Brown will be missed. "It's for purely personal reasons," says Diana, married to a son of the banking family. "But no, I won't write a book. I know too much about it."

While the world shuns British cows, Cambodians are suggesting that the animals be shipped to their country and allowed to roam free. Their purpose? To detonate the millions of landmines littering the countryside. "The English have 11 million mad cows and Cambodia has roughly the same number of equally mad landmines. Surely the solution to Cambodia's landmine problem is here before our very eyes in black and white," a letter to the *Cambodia Daily* reads.

Pink kisses

DAME BARBARA Cartland, the queen of chiffon and all that is pink, is to stamp her name once again on the world of high fashion. In the scented wake of Elizabeth Taylor, she plans to launch her own perfume on her 95th birthday this summer.

The fragrance will set male pulses racing. "Any man would want to kiss a woman wearing this," warbles the romantic night-ingle who only recently released a CD of love songs. "He would kiss, but he would go no further."

The perfume has been created to her own specification by John Bailey, founder of the Hertfordshire-based *Perfumers' Guild*. Called *Scent of Romance*, it is made for

her readers: "She may be 95, but Dame Barbara is adored by thousands as an icon of romance," says Bailey. I understand that Candy Floss Cartland may soon be endorsing additional beautifying products. My money's on false eyelashes next.

Cup of tears

THERE were signs of panic at Trinity College, Cambridge, last week when Imperial College,



They call it mad bank holiday disease

London won *University Challenge*. Trinity, which buzzed its way to victory last year, received an urgent request for the victor's trophy to be returned for the broadcast of the final on Wednesday. Nobody could find it.

Trinity quickly claimed that the cup had been sent back to Granada Television last November. Granada counter-claimed that Trinity still had the vessel, and flourished a college porter's signature of receipt as proof. The wretched thing was discovered in a Trinity storeroom and passed to the winners quicker than Jeremy Paxman could say: "Starter for ten."

So moved by the plight of maltreated donkeys is Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother, that she has donated a box of her monogrammed silver teaspoons to be auctioned for a Nottinghamshire donkey sanctuary.

Oh, Nicole!

ALL IS NOT well with the world of Renault. Nicole, star of the television advertisement and sweetheart to couch potatoes, is pining for alternative employment after six years behind the wheel. In *Q&A* magazine next month, Estelle Skornik bars her soul and much



Nicole: baring her soul

of her body to suggest that she is fed up with playing Nicole.

"I want proper work," she says grumpily, after admitting to endless auditions in Paris for weighty parts in the theatre. Most of all, she wants to appear in a gritty British film, "preferably a slice of dirty realism." Papa must be blowing his bonnet.

P.H.S

هكذا من الأصل



SOLOMON'S CHILD

English justice has a continuing duty toward Sifiso Mahlangu

The judgment of Solomon in the earliest recorded custody suit has a simple moral. It is that wisdom resides in giving absolute priority to the wellbeing of the child. That principle should embrace the case of Sifiso Mahlangu, the ten-year-old Zulu boy who has just been sent back to South Africa to live with his natural parents.

By comparison with this case, Solomon's task was admittedly simple. He had only to determine which was the real mother of the baby in question — the woman, as he demonstrated by offering to cut the child in two, who would rather give the child up than see it hurt. Today's most harrowing suits arise when natural parents have willingly given their children into the care of another, whether through agreeing to foster care or by signing adoption papers, and then decide between competing claims, which cannot be biologically equal but which may each be compelling. Courts worldwide incline towards the natural parents' "property rights" in their offspring. With very small children, that may be the nearest the law can come to emulating Solomon. But if they are old enough to have formed tight bonds with their adoptive families, true justice resides in putting the child first. Nothing is more difficult than such decisions, because some degree of subjectivity is unavoidable.

Sifiso has the double misery of being fought over by two families and of being caught up in the politics of race and class. To many South Africans, he is a child "stolen" into a world of relative affluence from parents who would never have parted with him but for the injustice of apartheid, their own inability to pay for a good education for him and their fears that South Africa was heading towards civil war. The Mahlangus themselves undoubtedly want their son back now; but when he was less than two years old, they were happy for him to be reared in the house of Salome Stoford, the white woman who wants to adopt him, and Sifiso's

mother willingly agreed four years ago that Mrs Stoford should take him to England to be brought up with her own children. Mrs Stoford believes that the parents were happy to see him adopted, but fostering is a common practice among poor South African families and there may well have been a cross-cultural misunderstanding.

What is not in dispute is that a bitterly unhappy ten-year-old boy has been now separated, despite his vehement protests, from the woman he calls his mother and returned to parents whom he barely remembers and whose language he has all but forgotten. Civil rights activists in South Africa retort that he should never have been put in this position and that to suppose that he will not happily readjust is racist arrogance. But ever since Westminster's social workers opposed Sifiso's adoption because it was inter-racial, reverse racism has operated in this case. The High Court's initial decision that he should first be given a two-year period to adjust to his eventual return, by living with Mrs Stoford but paying regular visits to his natural parents, was more humanely pragmatic than this abrupt severance. The appellant judges acknowledged that the boy could suffer lasting psychological harm and that the decision to return him forthwith had been "difficult and anxious".

In these circumstances, the cursory dismissal of the request by the President of the European Commission for Human Rights to postpone Sifiso's departure until it had conducted a hearing is hard to comprehend. The hearing should go ahead. Sifiso remains a ward of the English court and the boy's natural mother has given assurances that if the English courts seek his return, she will comply. The law is required under the Children Act to take a child's wishes into account, yet he has been unable to put his case in person. Here is a child in evident, abject misery; if in six months he is still miserable, the courts should reopen the dossier and give him the opportunity to speak for himself.

A BETTER SPAIN

Aznar succeeds the decadent Socialists

Spain, at long last, has a new Government. Its citizens have waited for over two months for a transfer of power — the elections took place on March 3 — but the tedious nature of the delay cannot obscure the powerful sense that today, Spanish democracy has finally reached maturity. José María Aznar is the country's new leader, replacing Felipe González, the seductive but profoundly flawed Socialist Prime Minister.

After 13 years of Socialist rule, Spain is in sore need of a political transfusion. The decadence of Señor González's seemingly interminable administration has spread to each and every institution of State. Although never found to have been personally dishonest, he permitted venality and corruption to thrive under his nose. Spain's economic modernisation in this period would have been more successful had the country not been prey to a card-carrying Socialist nomenclature, accountable to no one, answerable to none. The arrival of Señor Aznar will not, of course, produce better government at once; he inherits from his predecessor one of the most inefficient economies in Europe, with an unemployment problem so severe that no "quick fix" could help. The most immediate difference will be noted, instead, in Spain's new political order.

With hindsight, Señor Aznar's failure to command an absolute majority in Parliament after the elections may prove to have been a blessing. With only 156 seats in a 350-member house, the conservative Popular Party (PP) was forced to search for allies. These, after two months of extremely tense

negotiation, it has found in the conservative Catalan and Basque nationalist parties. These parties, we have long argued, should always have been Señor Aznar's most natural allies. Instead, apparent historical differences between these proud regional parties and the "Castilian" PP were allowed to fester unchecked, obscuring their natural Christian Democrat and free market affinities.

Señor Aznar must now be congratulated for the pacts he has made with both parties, as should Jordi Pujol and Xabier Arzalluz, the Catalan and Basque leaders who have proved sophisticated enough to realise that Señor Aznar was inclined to do everything to assure Spanish citizens in the regions that their autonomous structures would be unharmed by a conservative Government in Madrid. The pacts recently concluded are radical, particularly in regard to a new fiscal relationship between Madrid and the regions. When implemented, these reforms should make Catalonia and the Basque country, as well as other regions, as close in nature to the German *länder* as the Spanish Constitution will permit.

Before Señor Aznar has had the opportunity to implement his promises on regional autonomy, it would be premature to say that Spain's conservative parties are now part of one, happy family. But on the evidence of these weeks of negotiation, the one European democracy in which the Right had appeared to be condemned to a state of perpetual opposition is today a place with better balance, better prospects and a better man at the helm.

BLESS THAT SOUL?

A Florentine fundamentalist is a bad bet for beatification

Of all the titles that Holy Mother Church can bestow on her sons there are none, save entry to the congregation of the saints, as noble as being "blessed". Beatification is an honour that should be jealously guarded and awarded only to those whose lives inspire admiration without equivocation. If the speculation in Rome is correct and a Dominican campaigner sees the priggish, puritanical Renaissance zealot Girolamo Savonarola beatified on the 500th anniversary of his death, then it will be the most inappropriate elevation since Lord Kagan forsok his Gannex for ermine.

In so far as Savonarola's name is remembered, it is as the Ayatollah of his age. The Devil's advocate has an easy brief in arguing against him. Savonarola took Florence, then the world's most civilized city and, using the harshest Christian orthodoxy, turned it into a Thomist Teheran. His followers, Renaissance Revolutionary Guards, supervised the destruction of some of the city's finest art treasures and ornaments in the infamous "bonfire of the vanities". That the Roman Catholic church, which has so effectively brought God to man by image and allusion, should now beatify this enemy of the arts would be, at best, eccentric.

The Dominicans argue that Catholics should applaud Savonarola's zeal as a reformer and scourge of corruption, instead of allowing Protestants to take all the credit for exposing the excesses of the medieval Church. With Protestantism sweeping through South America and other areas

once staunch for Rome, the Dominicans' anxiety is understandable. But the Dominicans cannot remain within the bosom of the Catholic family and also take retrospective credit for the Reformation. They cannot have their wafer and eat it.

Lobbying for their lost leaders is standard practice among the competing Catholic organisations and in pressing Savonarola's claim the Dominicans are no worse than *Opus Dei*, who have campaigned for the beatification of their founder, the Spanish priest Josemaría Escrivá. Like Savonarola, he was an authoritarian who was happy to see a foreign power help usurp legitimate rule to advance his religious ambitions. While Savonarola benefited from the French invasion of Florence, so Escrivá's organisation flourished after Germany and Italy intervened in Franco's civil war. Rome must be wary lest beatification become the mark of its agents who intrigue with foreign princes against the rightful ruler.

Ultimately, it is not in Rome's interest to beatify a martyr so austerely intolerant as Savonarola. The present Pope's sunny demeanour should not be obscured by the cowed countenance of this joyless fundamentalist. Savonarola, while still a teenager, railed against "the blind wickedness of the people of Italy" for enjoying poetry. Rome would be wiser to beatify those who have brought man to God through pleasure, not least in poetry. Chaucer and even Chesterton, both humorous and humanly holy, are better bets for blessing.

Judicial discretion in public speaking

From Lord Donaldson of Lynton

Sir, Your leader "Blame in Justice" (May 4), on the career of Lord Taylor of Gossforth as Lord Chief Justice, states that there have been criticisms of the "Taylor glasnost" and goes on to say that I had counselled caution. I would be sorry if this gave the impression that I was not one of Lord Taylor's strongest supporters.

As Lord Taylor himself pointed out in a recent lecture (report, April 16), the judiciary needs to exercise a considerable degree of discretion in deciding when to speak publicly, on what subject and on what occasion. One, but not the only, reason for this is that there is, and will always be, an important place for the process of private consultation favoured by Lord Parker of Waddington.

The architect of judicial glasnost was not in fact Lord Taylor but the present Lord Chancellor, who withdrew the Kilmuir advice that silence outside court was the key to a reputation for wisdom. If this advice ever made sense, it certainly does not do so in a modern context. Lord Taylor therefore was right to mark his assumption of office by holding a press conference.

However, in my view, the Lord Chief Justice has a constitutional duty to warn both public and Parliament if policies are being proposed which, in his professional view and that of the judiciary, will not achieve the stated objectives or will disturb the delicate balance between an independent judiciary and the executive. This Lord Taylor has done. That this has given rise to a backlash from Conservative critics in Parliament and press is an occupational hazard which, if unavoidable, falls to be ignored.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN F. DONALDSON
(Master of the Rolls, 1982-92).
House of Lords.
May 5.

New uses for redundant air bases

From Councillor Andy Smith

Sir, Libby Purves has made a good point about government's wider responsibility for such valuable but derelict sites as the old Bentwaters USAF base ("Base uses of Bentwaters", April 30).

As Tory planning spokesman on the district council I am not sure I recognise the reference to Clochemerle, but it is true we have here a local example of a national problem. The so-called peace dividend involved in the abandonment of a base more often means lost jobs and derelict sites and is a hard nut to crack, not helped by the MoD's stance.

She suggests that our MP, John Gummer, is out of step with us "rural Conservatives". Not so. A local (farmer) Tory councillor, Ray Herring, has led the fight to get development moving, and our group on the council energetically opposed its rejection on "rural environmental" grounds by Labour and the Liberal Democrats.

We, in contrast, believe that the removal of concrete aircraft shelters and runways is well worth the intrusion of a holiday village. Furthermore, the proposed development as a whole will provide jobs and community facilities sorely needed to reverse the decline in the rural economy.

Yours faithfully,
ANDY SMITH,
The Porch, 15 Foxgrove Lane,
Felbstowe, Suffolk.
May 1.

Cosmetic touch to feminist debate

From Ms Stephanie Debere

Sir, Tunku Varadarajan ("Pulling power of powder and paint", April 26) extols make-up as an empowering tool for women, the use of which can bring pleasure to both sexes.

This is wonderful to read. Petty arguments that make-up is a symbol of feminine oppression distract from the real issues in the feminist debate, such as women's salary levels and the provision of childcare facilities.

The so-called feminists who decry the use of make-up trivialise the debate and expose themselves to accusations of pettiness. Cosmetics facilitate creativity and self-expression. However, women must be allowed to choose not to wear them. I am sure there are many who do not accept the implication that women who choose to go bare-faced are not "clever" in the way Liz Hurley is.

Having justified the use of cosmetics by the liberated, empowered female, Mr Varadarajan goes on to assert that when a woman has dined in a restaurant, her male friend should "quite correctly" pay the bill. This raises the question as to why men should automatically pay for women to eat out, or why women should not buy dinner for men.

It appears that it is the sexual allure of make-up which leads the writer to praise it, rather than sympathy for women who wish to wear make-up without facing charges of oppression from some feminists.

Yours faithfully,
STEPHANIE DEBERE,
59 Talgarth Mansions,
Talgarth Road, W4,
April 26.

Church archaeology

From the Director of the Oxford Archaeological Unit

Sir, Christopher Blake (letter, May 2) bemoans the requirement to carry out archaeological investigation at Charlbury Church. In most English towns and villages the parish church is not only a centre of spirituality, it is usually the most historic building in the community.

Charlbury Church is of more than general interest as it is probably an Anglo-Saxon minster church where, Bede implies, the bones of the Irish missionary to the Mercians, Saint Diuna, were interred. It has been suggested that the present church originated as a 7th-century Irish monastery.

In recent years there has been a proliferation of lavatories and meeting rooms in, beneath or attached to ancient churches which represent a major threat to any archaeological remains.

The Church of England has exemption from secular listed building control and, in return, it is the Church's policy to ensure that archaeological evidence is not destroyed in the course of modern development or restoration. Consequently a faculty for work may include an archaeological condition. The responsibility for implementing this lies with the parochial church council.

I sympathise with Mr Blake's frustration, but archaeologists, like clergy and architects, have to be paid for their services. The cost for such essential work falls on already heavily-burdened parishioners. Unfortunately there is, at present, little or no assistance from central government or from the lottery.

Yours faithfully,
DAVID MILES, Director,
Oxford Archaeological Unit,
46 Hythe Bridge Street, Oxford.
May 3.

Local elections

From the Chairman of the National Union of Conservative and Unionist Associations

Sir, Amidst all the column inches written on the local government election results three points have been neglected that had particularly struck those of us who have in recent weeks spent a good deal of time "on the knocker".

First, the Conservative share of the vote is up some 3 per cent on last year's figure of 24.5 per cent. In that sense, the slow but steady revival in our fortunes, which is matched by the results of local government by-elections, continues.

Second, our members remain steadfast in their support for the Prime Minister and, judging by reactions on the doorstep, he remains very popular in the country at large.

Third, nowhere was there any evidence of enthusiasm for the new, ersatz, repackaged Labour Party. It is a sham and, in their heart of hearts, the voters know it.

The above represents all the necessary ingredients for a Conservative general election victory. The issue is whether the party has the confidence to grasp this opportunity and, acting in a united fashion, will now focus its efforts on exposing the failings of our opponents.

Yours sincerely,
ROBIN HODGSON,
Chairman,
National Union of Conservative and Unionist Associations,
32 Smith Square, SW1.
May 3.

Good send-off

From Mr Denis Christian

Sir, The reports you carried on April 30 concerning the memorial service for the late Sir Robert Stephens confirm that these occasions can be quite a hoot and very much the place to be. Does anyone ever say a prayer?

Yours faithfully,
DENIS CHRISTIAN,
37 Swanscombe Road, Chiswick, W4.
May 1.

Rail privatisation

From Mr Peter G. Embrey

Sir, Should the Labour Party's objections to rail privatisation, especially of Railtrack, be taken seriously (report, May 2)?

If they had been in earnest, they could easily have stopped it dead, at no further cost to the taxpayer, by making a firm commitment to take back all component parts into public ownership, without compensation. Buyback funds would not then have been needed, since prospective purchasers of both shares and stripped assets would have received fair warning that they risked total loss of their stake.

Time could thus have been gained to rethink the future organisation of the railways at leisure, without the pressures of elections and dogma.

Yours faithfully,
PETER G. EMBREY,
19 Edith Road, Barons Court, W4.
May 3.

Changeable

From Mrs Brigit Barlow

Sir, On the weather page why "Hours of darkness" and not the more cheerful "Hours of light"?

Yours faithfully,
BRIGIT BARLOW,
Elbrook House,
Ashwell, Baldock, Hertfordshire.
May 3.

In a spin

From Mr Peter J. Coster

Sir, Why is it that the coiled lead to my telephone insists on changing polarity at frequent intervals along its length, achieving what its designer presumably set out to eliminate, namely a twisted tangle of wires that embraces all within its reach?

Is there some unusual feature of the earth's magnetic field beneath North Cornwall? Or have British Telecom invented the self-tying knot?

I think we should be told.

Yours sincerely,
PETER J. COSTER,
Pendoggett Farm, Pendoggett,
St Kew, Bodmin, North Cornwall.
May 4.

Intensive farming

From the Chief Executive of the British Poultry Meat Federation

Sir, The feature article, "Short lives in the broiler house" (April 30), together with the accompanying photograph, seriously misrepresents welfare in today's British poultry industry. The photograph depicts a caged, beak-trimmed bird which has nothing to do with the way intensively-reared broiler chickens and turkeys are treated.

There is no evidence for Juliet Gellatley's glib assertion that the vast majority of broiler chickens in Britain endure broken bones, deformities, heart disease and ammonia burns. Apart from compassionate considerations, such wholesale bad conditions would quickly bankrupt any company.

British poultry farmers do produce birds intensively, but this does not mean cruelty. The birds are well cared for, and poultry health and welfare is fully protected by detailed legislation

Only a game

From Mrs Clare Fordham

Sir, Nigel Lawson's daring challenge to the inner sanctum of male hegemony ("Why I don't intend to be a good sport, May 1) will surely find favour in many a female breast.

However, it is not so easy to topple household gods; particularly when the right of man to kick, hit or run with a ball is conjoined with the rite of man endlessly to discuss same over many pints of blitter.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,
CLARE FORDHAM,
3 Hill Street,
Ashby de la Zouch, Leicestershire.
May 1.

Terms of reference

From Mr A. R. Bartlett

Sir, Professor Hough's dilemma regarding playing chess at the unfashionably-named working men's club (letter, April 29) could be resolved by holding matches at the Equal Persons' Ecoclodge.

This is, of course, a neutral venue with inoffensive transparent chess pieces available and with the losing team having automatic right of appeal.

Yours faithfully,
A. R. BARTLETT,
14 Middleton Lawn,
Innsworth, Gloucester.
May 2.

Good send-off

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Yours faithfully,
A. R. BARTLETT,
14 Middleton Lawn,
Innsworth, Gloucester.
May 2.

OBITUARIES

TIM GULLIKSON

Tim Gullikson, former tennis player and coach, died from brain cancer in Wheaton, Illinois, on May 3 aged 44. He was born on September 1, 1951.

ALTHOUGH he had a more than respectable career as a singles player, and once reached the Wimbledon doubles final with his twin brother Tom, it is as a coach that Tim Gullikson will be best remembered. Mary Jo Fernandez, Barbara Potter and Aaron Krickstein were among the names he guided on their tennis careers, but he is most associated with the phenomenal success of Pete Sampras. Under Gullikson's coaching Sampras had been the world No 1 three years in a row and had won three successive Wimbledon singles titles.

Gullikson's power to inspire Sampras was never shown more markedly than it was in the Australian Open last year, after it had been diagnosed that he was suffering from a cluster of brain tumours. Gullikson was not able to be at the court side to encourage his protégé, since he had been flown home to Chicago, where the diagnosis was made. And for two sets in the quarter final against the powerful Jim Courier, it looked as if the World No 1, distraught by the news of his coach's illness, was certain to crash out of the championship. But when a voice from the crowd screamed "Win this one for Tim", Sampras's performance was transformed. Fighting back tears between games, he battled on to win a tough five-setter 6-7, 6-7, 6-3, 6-4, 6-3, dedicating his victory to his absent mentor.

Tim Gullikson was born in La Crosse, Wisconsin, a few minutes after his identical twin brother Tom. Both men went to Northern Illinois University, where Tim took a degree in physical education. This gave him an interest in the interplay between the mental and physical aspects of the game that was to become one of his great strengths as a coach, after his playing days were over.

From their earliest days the twins played tennis together and soon developed into one of the most promising doubles pairs on the junior circuit, Tim being the right-handed partner of the duo. Determined to make a career as a professional, he supported himself by giving tennis lessons to all takers. It was not long before he broke on to the Association of Tennis Professionals (ATP) circuit. Together, the brothers established a reputation as one of the



Tim, right, and Tom Gullikson as doubles partners in 1978

best doubles pairs on the circuit during the 1970s and 1980s, winning ten titles together. Tim won a further six doubles titles with partners other than his brother.

On the international circuit the pair's best effort was to reach the doubles final at Wimbledon in 1983, after beating Kevin Curren and Steve Denton in a thrilling and closely fought semi-final. In the event they were beaten for the title by John McEnroe and Peter Fleming. But it was the first time in this century that twins had appeared in a Wimbledon

doubles final (Herbert and Wifred Baddeley of Britain had contested the 1897 final in a much less competitive era), and the brothers were highly popular with the crowd.

Tim Gullikson also developed a credible singles career, winning four titles and reaching a career-best world ranking of 18th in 1978. But perhaps his most memorable achievement was to dispose of the explosive rising star John McEnroe in a match for a place in the quarter final at Wimbledon in 1979.

In 1986 he gave up playing fulltime and made a successful transition to

coaching. Besides getting a number of younger players on course in their careers he was asked for his services by Martina Navratilova, who had by that stage already established herself as one of the greatest players in the game's history.

Although he had one US Open under his belt, Pete Sampras was ranked only sixth in the world when he approached Gullikson in 1992 and asked him to be his fulltime coach. In Sampras, Gullikson found an ideal field for the tennis theories he had evolved during his university days and practised on the court in the following years. He taught his young protégé much about stroke strategy, though he forbore to interfere with Sampras's peerless serve. But perhaps his most important contribution to Sampras's subsequent success was to work on his psychology, to fire him with the passion to win and to enable him to hold together under the immense pressures of the big occasion. Within a year, Sampras, still then only 21, had become, unassailably, the world's top player. He was to be the ATP's No 1 for the next three years.

Alas, this highly-effective partnership was not to be permitted to last. In 1994, while on tour with Sampras in Europe, Gullikson blacked out in his hotel room in Stockholm, severely gashing his face on the edge of a desk as he fell to the floor. It was discovered that he had suffered a stroke, and it was to be followed by others. But the cause remained a mystery after intensive tests.

Gullikson insisted on going to Australia in January 1995 to help Sampras to defend his Open title, but collapsed again during the competition. After further tests conducted in Melbourne proved inconclusive he was compelled to return to Chicago, where cancer was eventually diagnosed. Nevertheless he continued to keep in touch with Sampras on the phone, while leaving day-to-day training in the hands of a mutual friend, the former professional Paul Annacone. Gullikson's last official appearance in the coaching chair was at Las Vegas last year at the Davis Cup semifinals between the US and Sweden. His presence on that occasion gave a tremendous psychological boost, not only to Sampras, but to his own brother Tom, who was the American Davis Cup team captain.

Tim Gullikson is survived by his wife Rosemary, and by a young son and daughter.

KEVIN KEOHANE

Kevin Keohane, CBE, Rector of Roehampton Institute of Higher Education, 1976-83, died on April 13 aged 73. He was born on February 28, 1923.



KEVIN KEOHANE was for thirty years one of the leading figures in British education. His two principal achievements were the creation of the Centre for Science and Mathematics Education at Chelsea College, the first such centre in the country, and the establishment of the Roehampton Institute. But his influence over and involvement with scientific and educational affairs spread far wider than these two institutions.

Kevin William Keohane was born in Portsmouth of an Irish Catholic family. He was brought up in Kent where his father, a marine engineer with the Royal Fleet Auxiliary Service, had been posted after the First World War. He was educated at Borden Grammar School, where he held a scholarship, and in 1941 secured entry to Bristol University, to study physics.

Under the wartime regulations he was called up when he had completed two years of his degree course. He was commissioned into the RAF, where he was involved in the development of radar installations, and was posted to India. On demobilisation he returned to Bristol, completing his degree in 1947. He was appointed first to a research post working on the optics of the eye and subsequently to a lectureship, gaining his doctorate during this time.

In 1959 he went to Chelsea College as Reader in Biophysics, becoming Professor of Physics in 1965. However he was increasingly concerned about science and mathematics education in schools and accepted the post of co-ordinator of the Nuffield Foundation's Science Teaching Project in 1966. From this base he was

able to realise an ambitious vision when London University set up at Chelsea the first Chair of Science Education in this country. He was elected the first holder and from this base created the Chelsea Centre for Science and Mathematics Education and became its first director.

The new centre, which drew strength from its continuing association with the Nuffield projects, broke the mould in two ways. First, it gave prominence and status to the academic and practical study of science and mathematics in education. Secondly, it set up a new style of teacher training courses. In both these respects Chelsea was well ahead of its time and it came to be imitated by education departments in many other universities, both in Britain and overseas. In recognition of this work Keohane was appointed CBE in 1976.

He left Chelsea in that same year to become the first Rector of the new Roehampton Institute. This was a challenge which required all of his optimism, energy and tact. The new institute was to be a federation of four independent colleges, three with different religious foundations, one with none, and each with its

own distinctive tradition. That the Roehampton Institute was, by his retirement, flourishing and remains so to this day is a testament to his success.

Keohane's served on numerous committees and advisory boards, often as chairman. The range and scope of this aspect of his work was wide. He served on advisory boards for the BBC, the RAF, the Royal College of Nursing, the Commonwealth Institute, the Institute of Physics and the Open University, as well as on many academic committees of the University of London and of other universities. To each of these he gave his full energy and enthusiasm. He was not a man who would play the role of token representative.

He was a practising Roman Catholic and took on many tasks for the Catholic sector of education. He was chairman of the governors of several Catholic schools in south London, where he lived, and from 1989 chaired the Archdiocese of Southwark's Education Commission.

Keohane retired from the Roehampton Institute in 1988, but continued to work with energy and enthusiasm in the field of education. In 1986 he had been invited to join an international advisory panel for provincial universities in China and over the next few years he visited China on several occasions. He kept up his work with Catholic education, with scientific and educational publishing, and with the Nuffield Curriculum Developments.

He also helped to build a successful training centre for school leavers whose lack of skills and self-confidence made them unemployable. When changes in the funding rules removed its resources, he responded by raising private donations to ensure its continuation.

Kevin Keohane is survived by his wife Pat, whom he married in 1949, and by their son and three daughters.

CECILIA GILLIE

Cecilia Gillie, Paris Representative of the BBC, 1947-67, died in Warsaw on April 20 aged 88. She was born on August 18, 1907.

CECILIA GILLIE was one of those formidable BBC women who succeeded against all the odds in making names for themselves while working within an organisation which at the time was still very much a male preserve.

Better known in her earlier professional days by her maiden name of Cecilia Reeves, she joined the BBC's newly-created Foreign Liaison Office in 1933. She had earlier taken a degree in modern languages at Newnham College, Cambridge.

The unit's function was to provide facilities for foreign broadcasters and to maintain contacts with overseas broadcasting organisations. It was in the course of these duties that she first encountered the then relatively unknown American CBS correspondent, Ed Murrow.

In March 1938 Murrow had been sent at short notice to Vienna to cover Hitler's Anschluss. On his return, in the small hours of the morning, Reeves immediately arranged for his report to be transmitted, uncensored, to the United States. Back in his flat she listened afterwards to Murrow's own personal account of the horrors he had witnessed. That experience, and her contact with the less formal American broadcasting practices, were to be crucial to her later role.

In 1939 she had her first taste of working abroad when she helped Richard Marriott, the Foreign Liaison Officer, to set up the BBC's Paris Office.

As events turned out, the operation was short-lived. Back in London in the dark days of June and July 1940, Cecilia Reeves was made Senior Talks Assistant in the BBC's French Service, bringing together a team of French broadcasters and journalists to handle the necessary expansion of the service. That was the start of one of the most remarkable and effective wartime propaganda operations ever mounted.

Peter Pooley, the founding editor of *Radio Newsweek*, who had a wide knowledge of the theatre, had put her in touch with Michel Saint-Denis, a French stage director who had worked in the theatre in London in the Thirties and, as a French liaison officer with the British Expeditionary Force, had been evacuated to England from Dunkirk. Saint-Denis had resolved to continue the fight from England. Having rejected a British commission and suspicious of de Gaulle, he welcomed Reeves's suggestion that he should come to work for the BBC French Service.

It was an inspired move, which led to the creation of a nightly broadcast entitled *Les Français parlent aux Français*, using a flexible, multi-voiced formula which owed something to the American informal style first witnessed by Reeves through her earlier contacts with Ed Murrow.

For four years Saint-Denis, under his nom de guerre of Jacques Duchesne, presided over a brilliant team which included, among others, Jean Marin, later Director-General of Agence France-Presse, a young journalist called Pierre Maillaud, broadcasting under the assumed name of Pierre



Bourdan, a painter, Jean Oberle, described by Saint-Denis as "the last of the boulevardiers", and Maurice van Moppes, who had worked for the French satirical magazine *Crapouillot*. Using typically Gallic wit, sarcasm, and derision, undaunted in their determination to broadcast the truth however grim, but always pleading convincingly the cause of hope and patience, they succeeded in gaining the confidence of the sceptical and prostrate French public so that when hope of eventual victory first dawned, after Stalingrad and Alamein, the BBC was implicitly believed. As one French Resistance leader put it: "*Les Français parlent aux Français* were the words which, in the silence of occupation, when every mouth was gagged,

helped the French to surmount the lies of the enemy and saved them from despair."

The man ultimately in charge of the BBC's French broadcasts from 1940 to 1944 was Darsie Gillie, who had been the *Morning Post* correspondent in Warsaw and had moved to Paris to work for the *Manchester Guardian* after the fall of Poland. He and Cecilia Reeves were close colleagues throughout those years and they were to marry in 1955. By that time she had been the BBC's Paris Representative for eight years, a post she retained in various guises until her retirement in 1967.

Those postwar years saw a much increased interest in French cultural life on the part of BBC Radio, with the newly-created Third Programme

providing an outlet for many distinguished French voices. This owed much to Cecilia Reeves's unparalleled network of contacts among French intellectuals, journalists and politicians, who willingly came to the studios on the Avenue Hoche to make their contribution to Anglo-French understanding.

Cecilia and Darsie Gillie moved to the Provencal village of Mirabeau, close to the river Durance, after her retirement. *La Maison derrière l'Eglise*, as their home was called, became a place of pilgrimage for many friends, both French and British, and many will remember the great, dark barn-like room where Darsie Gillie's huge library had been installed. By then Gillie had been incapacitated by a stroke. He died in 1972.

Cecilia stayed on at Mirabeau, a singular figure widely known among the locals as *la dame anglaise*, hospitably receiving family and friends, gardening and writing - her account of the BBC's French Service in wartime and, much to everyone's surprise, a cookery book.

Shortly after Easter 1987, as she was about to record a lengthy filmed interview for BBC Television Archives, she suffered a severe stroke, followed by several others. A Polish friend, Stanislaw ("Stash") Pruszyński, whom she and her husband had helped, and unofficially adopted, after he escaped from Poland in 1955, saw to it that she was comfortably looked after at Mirabeau. Last year she was flown on a stretcher to Warsaw, where she spent her last days, cared for by "Stash" and his wife. She died exactly nine years after her first stroke.

Mike Leander, pop music composer and producer, died from cancer on April 18 aged 54. He was born on June 30, 1941.



MIKE LEANDER may have been a respected composer and producer in the music industry. But to most rock fans, he will always be the man who launched that eccentrically evergreen pop musician Gary Glitter. He also wrote most of Glitter's songs. When Leander first heard Paul Raven (as Glitter was then known) in 1965, he was working as a warm-up act for established bands. But Leander recognised that Raven had at least as much talent as the acts which followed him, and set about trying to develop it.

After a few abortive suggestions (Turk Thrust, Terry Tinsel) they decided together on the stage name of Gary Glitter, and then worked on Glitter's wonderfully camp stage image: the shoulder pads of an American footballer, the dangerously stacked high heels and the electric-shock hairstyle.

Glitter and Leander shut themselves away in a studio to work out some original material and emerged, 24 exhausting hours later, with *Rock and Roll*, Glitter's first single. A stream of co-written songs followed in the early 1970s: *I Didn't Know I Loved You (Till I Saw You Rock and Roll)*, *Oh Yes You're Beautiful*, *I Love You Love Me Love and I'm the Leader of the Gang (I Am)*. While generations of "serious" rock artists have come and gone, Glitter still plays these songs to packed houses, and has sold about 30 million of his singles.

The Gary Glitter phenomenon was Leander's most public success, but his career ranged widely across the mu-

sical spectrum. He was ubiquitous on the music scene of the Swinging Sixties in London. He courted a glamorous model, Penny Carter, who became his wife in 1974 (Glitter was Leander's best man and wore a comparatively restrained black velvet suit to the wedding). Leander hated to leave the centre of London and much of his recording was done at a small studio in South Molton Street.

Leander won numerous awards for his compositions and arrangements and, had it not been for his inherent laziness, he would have left a far larger body of music behind. Other than music, his passion in life was cricket and he was a proud member of the MCC. Leander said that he would have traded all of his talent as a musician to open for England, except of course that he would never have made the effort to run.

Michael Farr, as he was known before he changed his name, was educated at a small private school. He played drums, guitar and piano as a boy, and gave up his legal studies which he found dull to study composition at the Trinity College of Music in

London. At 20, after studio work with the Rolling Stones, Andrew Oldham and Phil Spector, he joined Decca Records as musical director. Here he merged his love of classical and pop music to create a new, influential style of arranging. It was heard to best effect in the rich string arrangement which introduced the Lennon and McCartney song *She's Leaving Home*, from the *Sergeant Pepper* album.

The list of artists Leander wrote for and produced in the 1960s included just about every fashionable name in music: Marianne Faithfull, Joe Cocker, Alan Price, Shirley Bassey, Lulu, Roy Orbison and Gene Pitney. In America in 1964, working with Atlantic, he worked with the Drifters, giving them a number one hit with *Under The Boardwalk*.

He made an effortless transition to the new fashions of the 1970s. Andrew Lloyd Webber and Tim Rice invited him to be executive producer on the concept album *Jesus Christ Superstar*, and later he made a soundtrack album for *Godspell*. He composed film music for *Privilege* and *Run A Crooked Mile*, but considered the work too time consuming compared to the world of pop.

At the end of the 1970s Leander retired with his family to Mallorca. His love of Spain resulted in a musical, *Matador*, which was produced in the West End in 1991. But while the critics found some aspects admirable it fared badly at the box office, mostly because of the effects on tourism of the Gulf War. Leander bounced back in 1994 with the launch of a series of audio tapes featuring actors reading erotic selections from Henry Miller and the *Kama Sutra*.

He is survived by his wife Penny and by their two sons.

Church appointments

The Rev Vivien Ashworth, Honorary Assistant Curate, Ingleton y Chapel-le-Dale: to be also half-time Rural Youth Adviser (Bradford).
The Rev Joseph Ayok-Loewenberg, Mission Partner, Church Mission Society: to be Priest-in-charge, Symondsbury and Chideock (Salisbury).
The Rev Paul Bagshaw, Assistant Curate, St Mary Magdalene, Newark, Newark Team Ministry: to be Priest-in-charge, All Hallows, Ordsall and St Albans, Redford (Southwell).
The Rev Justin Bailey, Assistant Curate, Oakdale Team Ministry: to be Priest-in-charge, Milton Abbas, Hinton y Cheselbourne and Melcombe Horsey (Salisbury).
The Rev Neil Barker, Rector, St Peter, Woodmanscote (Southwark): to be also Mothers' Union Diocesan Chaplain, same diocese.
The Rev Christopher Barley, Assistant Curate, Upson-cum-Chalvey,

Slough: to be Team Vicar, Wycombe Team Ministry, responsible for St Anne and St George, Sands (Oxford).
The Rev Peter Boulton-Lea, Rector, Kirk Sandall y Edensor: to be Vicar, Campsall, Doncaster, and resign as Rural Dean of Doncaster (Sheffield).
Canon Paul Bunday, permission to officiate, Chalk deanery (Salisbury): to be a Canon Emeritus of Salisbury Cathedral.
The Rev Ivan Bucher, Curate, Greater Corsham (Bristol): to be Vicar, Overbury y Teddington, Alton and Little Washbourne y Beckford and Ashton-under-Hill (Worcester).
The Rev David Cameron, Curate, Guildford Holy Trinity y St Mary (Guildford): now Vicar, Fenion (Lichfield).
The Rev Brian Camp, Team Vicar, Halesowen Team Ministry (Worcester): to be Priest-in-charge, St Giles, Sheldon (Birmingham).
The Rev Lois Cater, Curate (NSM),

Devizes St John and St Mary: to be Team Vicar (NSM). Alderbury Team Ministry (Salisbury).
The Rev Robert Chavner, Curate, St George, Beckenham: to be Minister of the Conventual District of St Luke, Sevenoaks (Rochester).
The Rev David Clarke, Rector, Burnall y Rylstone: to be Vicar, Menston y Woodhead (Bradford).
The Rev Joyce Clarke, formerly Deanery Youth Chaplain, Purbeck Deanery: to be NSM, Wool and East Stoke (Salisbury).
The Rev Annette Cooper, Chaplain to Bassettlaw Hospital and Community Services NHS Trust (Southwell): to be Priest-in-charge, St Mary's, Edwinstowe and Chaplain to Center Parks, same diocese.
The Rev Valerie Cory, Chaplain, Thames Valley University, London (London): to be Chaplain, Birmingham Cathedral (Birmingham).
The Rev James Curry, Assistant Curate, All Saints, Four Oaks: to

be Assistant Curate, St Barnabas, Erdington (Birmingham).
The Rev Anne Dawtry, Assistant Curate, Corie Muller: to be Assistant Curate, Parkstone St Peter y Branksome and St Osmund (Salisbury).
The Rev Stephen Flatt, Assistant Curate, Limsfield and Tisbury (Southwark): to be Team Vicar, Pewsey Team Ministry (Salisbury).
The Rev Brian Hall, Assistant Curate, St John's, Mansfield: to be Assistant Curate, St Andrew's, Slegby and All Saints Chapel of Ease, Stanton Hill (Southwell).
The Rev Paul Hinds, Assistant Curate, St Mark, Stockland Green: to be Priest-in-charge, St Mark, Stockland Green (Birmingham).
The Rev C. Hodge, Vicar, Lilliput: to be Priest-in-charge, Charmminster and Sainsford (Salisbury).
The Rev Hilary Hochin, Assistant Curate, Handsworth, Sheffield: to be Team Vicar, Malby, Rotherham (Sheffield).

THE ARREST OF MR. GANDHI FOLLOWERS OUT OF CONTROL

(From Our Own Correspondent)

BOMBAY, May 5 (1969-1948) led a campaign of non-cooperation with the British in India, followed by one of civil disobedience for which he was often imprisoned.

The arrangements for Mr Gandhi's arrest and removal to Poona this morning had been carefully planned and were most efficiently carried out, with the result that, although rumours of his coming arrest had been plentiful, the general public of Bombay did not suspect what had been done until Mr Gandhi was nearly in Poona.

The arrest took place about 1 o'clock this morning in the camp near Jalapur. The District Magistrate, accompanied by police, entered Mr Gandhi's room, after brushing his teeth, asked what was the charge under which he was being arrested. The Magistrate then read a warrant directing that Mr Gandhi be placed under restraint under Regulation 25 of 1827. Before leaving the camp Mr Gandhi handed over a letter which he had written to the Viceroy, said "Goodbye" to his volunteers, and left in a motor-lorry. He was then put on a train between two stations, and about 6.30 the train was stopped near Borivil, a station about

ON THIS DAY

May 6, 1930



Beginning in 1920, Mahatma Gandhi (1869-1948) led a campaign of non-cooperation with the British in India, followed by one of civil disobedience for which he was often imprisoned.

30 miles from Bombay. Mr Gandhi, wearing only a loin cloth, detained, and was taken in a car, with the blinds drawn, accompanied by a police officer and a doctor, to Yeravda Gaol, outside Poona.

He is reported to have arrived there in excellent health and spirits, and to have expressed his gratitude for the arrangements made for his comfort on the journey. The Bombay Government has issued a Press note giving the reasons for Mr Gandhi's arrest.

After referring to the grave disturbances which inevitably followed the beginning of the civil disobedience campaign, the note says

that, while Mr Gandhi has continued to deplore these outbreaks of violence, his protests against his unruly followers' conduct have become weaker and weaker, and it is evident that he is unable to control them. The note describes the effects of the social boycott on the administration and on private persons loyal to the Government, and then refers to Mr Gandhi's incitement to withhold payment of the land revenue and his threat to raid salt which is the property of salt manufacturers, not of the Government.

The Bombay Government have, ever since Mr Gandhi left his Ashram at Ahmedabad, pursued a policy of the utmost tolerance. They have been content to risk the accusation of weakness in the firm conviction that the attack on the Salt Laws, if violence were excluded from the methods by which it was conducted, must before long come to a peaceful ending. Events have shown that Nature's laws are inexorable, and that the history of the earlier non-cooperation movements, with its accompaniments of blood and fire, would repeat itself if Mr Gandhi's campaign were allowed to continue unchecked.

"In these circumstances the Bombay Government of India concluded it was no longer possible to allow Mr Gandhi to remain at large without danger to India's tranquillity."

Police gain right to bug

Police will be able to enter private property and plant bugging devices against targeted criminals under legislation to be introduced by the Government in the autumn.

The aim is to put covert surveillance by the 43 police forces in England and Wales on a similar basis to MI5, which soon will be able to obtain warrants to break into houses and vehicles to plant bugs. **Pages 1, 6**

Children die in arson attack

Four children died in a suspected arson attack on their home in Southampton. Detectives are investigating claims by the distraught mother that petrol had been poured through the letterbox and set alight at 2am as the family slept. The dead were named as Terry Good, 12, his brother Patrick, 6, and sisters Allison, 10, and Nicola, 8. **Pages 1, 3**

Zulu boy goes home

Sifiso Mahlangu, the Zulu boy who the British courts sent to South Africa to live with his parents, arrived back in Tsakane township. **Page 1**

Drinking until dawn

Football fans will be able to drink until dawn during the Euro 96 championships next month as magistrates relax restrictions on closing times in city centre pubs and clubs. **Page 1**

Tories at war

Warring Tories continued their internal battle over Europe despite warnings that feuding will open the door to a huge general election victory for the Labour Party. **Page 2**

French bid for rail

A French rubbish collection and street cleaning company could be running a quarter of Britain's railway network within a year. **Page 2**

Party girl dies

The daughter of a police superintendent was found dead on a sofa at a party where it is suspected drugs were available. **Page 3**

Children's shop

The entrepreneur who founded the Waterstones bookshops is to open a £5 million department store devoted to children. It will sell books, toys, videos and clothes and have "a magnificent" soda fountain. **Page 4**

MPs 'freebies' to be curbed

MPs face tougher rules next month to curb the number of "freebie" holidays and overseas visits taken by themselves and their families. New Commons guidelines will force MPs to reveal more details of foreign trips taken by themselves, their partners and children if paid for by companies, charities or foreign governments. **Page 1**

Bader's plane

A group of enthusiasts recovered what they believed to be the shattered remains of Sir Douglas Bader's Spitfire from 15ft of clay near St Omer. **Page 5**

Nine o'clock rector

The Nine O'Clock Service, the "rave" church that collapsed last year was assigned to the safe hands of a grey-haired, bespectacled country rector. **Page 6**

Election threat

Genadi Zyuganov, the Russian Communist Party leader and presidential election favourite said that the Kremlin may try to postpone the polls rather than face defeat. **Page 7**

Dole attacks

Bob Dole, the Republican presidential challenger, launched his harshest attack yet on President Clinton but his criticism was largely eclipsed by rows in his own party. **Page 8**

Monrovia blazes

The centre of Monrovia, the Liberian capital, was ablaze after ethnic Krahm fighters pushed out of their barracks to hit back at Charles Taylor's forces. **Page 9**

Sea claim

Inhabitants of Mer, a tiny palm-fringed island off northern Australia, are demanding the restoration of their fishing rights in the waters around their home. **Page 9**



Spitfires fly over Southampton Water yesterday to mark the wartime fighter's inaugural flight 60 years ago. Bader's plane, page 6

Lloyd's rescue: A financial boost of £1.2 billion could ensure the insurance market's survival. **Page 36**

Power bid: The latest in a series of City takeover bids in the power industry is expected this week with an agreed deal worth up to £2 billion for Midlands Electricity from the US utility that ran Three Mile Island. **Page 36**

Game play: At the end of the league season Alastair Murray looks at the business implications of events in the goal-mouth. **Page 34**

Lost shirt: A factory on Merseyside producing shirts for Marks & Spencer that closed on Friday is only the latest to fall victim to cheap competition from the Third World, a trend that has cut textile employment by a third. **Page 34**

Problematic ballet: Kenneth MacMillan's 1971 ballet *Anastasia* is revived at Covent Garden under the supervision of his widow, but its inherent problems remain unresolved. **Page 10**

Playing Marilyn: The American actress Lisa Eichhorn will soon be playing Marilyn Monroe on stage, as the Royal Exchange in Manchester presents *Misfit*, a new play about the making of Monroe's last film. **Page 11**

New music: The Harrison Birtwistle Retrospective moved towards its close with premieres on the South Bank. **Page 11**

Big voice: Mellow is not the word to describe Jimmy Witherspoon, one of the last of the great blues shouters. **Page 11**

Horrible death: New Zealand flatworms actively search for earthworms by slithering down their tunnels and will hunt them to the point of extinction. **Page 12**

Mirror image: An experiment with chimpanzees and mirrors is explaining how children first become aware of themselves. **Page 12**

Acting daughter: At the moment, Emily Mortimer is most famous for being John Mortimer's daughter. He may have to accept being known as her father. **Page 13**

Crime buster: Nothing is more guaranteed to distort a witness's recollection than being asked to flip through a folder of 960 chips, ears, eyes and beards, Giles Whittell on the unusual methods of forensic artist Jeanne Boylan. **Page 13**

Football: Manchester United captured the Premiership for the third time in four years with a 3-0 victory over Middlesbrough. **Page 19**

Motor racing: Damon Hill put his championship hopes back on track when he won the San Marino Grand Prix. Michael Schumacher, who started in pole position, was runner-up. **Page 21**

Cricket: Tendulkar scored a century as India enjoyed a comfortable victory over the Duke of Norfolk's XI at Arundel. **Pages 30 and 31**

Rugby Union: The English season finished on a discordant note as Back, the Leicester flanker, pushed over the referee at the end of the Pilkington Cup final. **Page 32**

Athletics: Diane Modahl took no chances with cold cures on her winning return after being cleared of taking drugs. **Page 26**

Equestrianism: Mark Todd, of New Zealand, won the Badminton Horse Trials with a faultless performance on Bertie Blunt. **Page 20**

Racing: Bosra Sham, a doubtful starter earlier in the week because of a bruised foot, survived a stewards' inquiry to win the 1,000 Guineas at Newmarket. **Page 26**

6, 25, 26, 33, 34, 47. Bonus: 49. Two winners will get £10.9 million each; 15 people win £258,238 for five numbers and the bonus; 909 win £2,663 for five numbers; and the four-number prize is £91.

Preview: Richard Wilson as a former Lord Chancellor bent on causing trouble. *Lord of Misrule* (BBC1, 9pm) **Review:** Lynne Truss is thrilled by the sight of the human imagination in action. **Page 35**

Solomon's child

Here is a child in evident, abject misery; if in six months he is still miserable, the courts should give him the opportunity to speak for himself. **Page 15**

A better Spain

Spain is today a place with better balance, better prospects and a better man at the helm. **Page 15**

Bless that soul

If Girolamo Savonarola is beatified then it will be the most inappropriate elevation since Lord Kagan forsok his Gannex. **Page 15**

PETER RIDDELL

John Major's main weakness as a politician is that he believes in fairness. He has little of the worldly-wise cynicism of Michael Heseltine or the damn-them-all robustness of Kenneth Clarke. **Page 14**

WILLIAM REES-MOGG

Is the decline the result of the Conservative Party being too Conservative, or of its not being Conservative enough? **Page 14**

Tim Gallikson, tennis player and coach; **Cecilia Gillie,** BBC Paris representative; **Kevin Keohane,** educationist; **Mike Leander,** pop music producer. **Page 17**

Judicial discretion; redundant air bases; make-up. **Page 15**

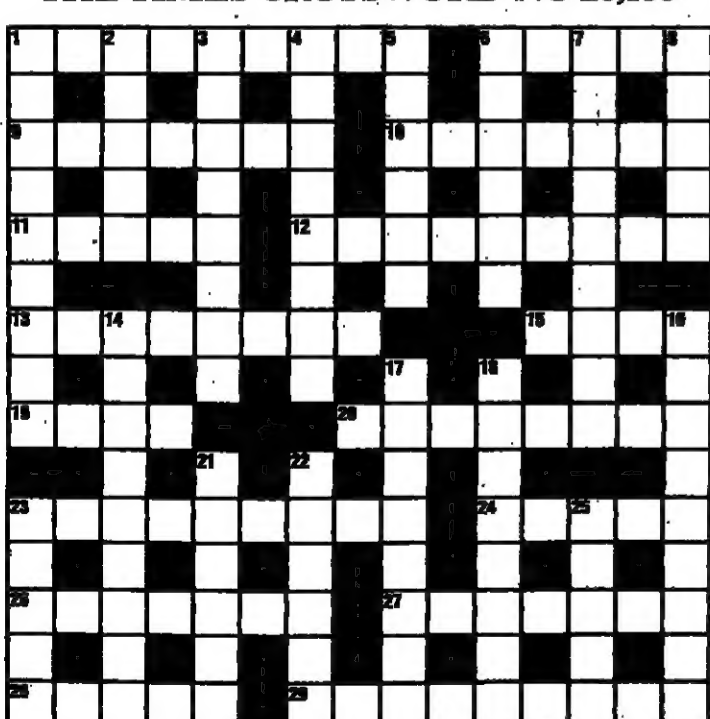
Hans van den Broek, the EU Commissioner in charge of relations with eastern Europe, says it is his "personal view" that when the mandate of the peacekeeping force in Bosnia runs out at the end of this year and the Americans go home, European soldiers will continue their mission alone. Since Dayton the Europeans have been extras on the stage, with the Americans taking the main role. The Europeans failed to make peace in 1991-95, and are dreaming of anti-American revenge. — *La Repubblica, Rome*

IN THE TIMES

ARTS
Twenty years after Carl Andre's infamous bricks, his sculpture goes on show in Oxford

LAW
Frances Gibb talks to a defence lawyer in the first war crimes trial since Nuremberg

THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 20,160



- ACROSS**
- House by pass — one mostly used by writers for a break (9).
 - Prior, in origin, a church official (5).
 - Impassive, a French executive accepts deliveries right away (7).
 - Showing inclination to create a record (7).
 - Obtain police commander's backing (5).
 - Receive accolade, say, yet lacking intellect (9).
 - Old railway skirting field where fruit is cultivated (8).
 - Love involved in monk's downfall (4).
 - Deliver second greeting to old Roman (4).
 - Blow in square below housing area, initially (8).
 - A burning passion (9).
 - Silk for queen, striped (5).
- DOWN**
- Friendly declaration in Muslim territory (7).
 - Subtle revolutionary accepts punishment (7).
 - Examine way to arrange secret meeting (5).
 - A big blow for caravan travellers (9).
 - Sorting our post gets us in a dazed state (9).
 - Do rodents mostly go under or across motorway? (5).
 - Reporting on being behind bars (8).
 - Noble and common females together spotted insect (8).
 - Hose assembled only in final stages of configuration, alas (6).
 - Officer giving directions on board (6).
 - Branches carried along by the current trend (9).
 - Stiff outfit upset little girl (5).
 - Curtailed part of speech, say, about Republican opponent (9).
 - Torment as modern forms of transport turned over (9).
 - In role of doctor in boy's fighting unit (8).
 - Endless dispute over dandy's discarded garments (4-4).
 - Mischievous child with skill to pass on (6).
 - A lot of orders from theatrical backers (6).
 - Felder's aim (5).
 - Instrument used in urban jollification (5).

For the latest region by region forecast, 24 hours a day, dial 0891 500 followed by the appropriate code:

Greater London	701
East of London	702
West of London	703
North of London	704
South of London	705
West Midlands	706
East Midlands	707
West of Midlands	708
North of Midlands	709
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West of Midlands	723
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South of Midlands	725
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East of Midlands	727
West of Midlands	728
North of Midlands	729
South of Midlands	730

For the latest AA traffic information, 24 hours a day, dial 0300 401 followed by the appropriate code:

For the latest A&S traffic information, 24 hours a day, dial 0230 401 followed by the appropriate code.	
London & SE traffic, roadworks	731
Area with light	732
North/Southbound	733
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